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Senator Edward Kennedy launched a vigorous attack on Mr Reagan's economic policies on Wednesday, and said he would run for the White House in 1984 Page 8

Power workers back Paisley

Power workers in Ulster agreed to support the Rev Ian Paisley's day of action planned for next Monday, saving him from almost certain humiliation as Protestant paramilitary groups remain undecided whether to back him Back page

Cudlipp defects to the SDP

Lord Cudlipp, the Labour peer, has resigned the Labour Whip in the House of Lords and said he was joining the Social Democratic Party. He regarded Labour's official policies as disastrous for the country Page 2

NOP poll puts Williams ahead

Mrs Shirley Williams, the Social Democrat candidate for next Thursday's Crosby by-election, is a clear certainty with a 10 per cent lead over the Conservatives to win the seat, according to a National Opinion Poll survey published today Crosby report, page 3

Bottle Bill thrown out

The House of Lords last night threw out the Beverage Containers Bill which sought to require that all cider, beer and soft drinks bottles should carry a deposit to encourage their return and re-use Page 6

Judge theatened

John Smith, sentenced to a minimum 25-year jail term for murdering a judge for revenge, told Mr Justice Lawson at Leeds Crown Court: "I shall cut your throat when I get out" Trial report, page 2

Prisoner 'caged' for 18 months

Mr George Wilkinson, who died in Walton jail, Liverpool, after being on hunger strike, was earlier kept for 18 months in two cells with wire doors, representatives of his family said Page 2

Israeli disquiet

Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the Israeli opposition Labour Party, has added to the growing criticism of the government's hard-line policy of blowing up the houses of Arab suspects. It was an "overly harsh measure", he said Page 8

Fears for EEC

EEC foreign ministers, meeting in Brussels, have again failed to reach agreement on the rebuilding of Europe's finances. If last-ditch efforts do not produce results, the London EEC summit next week will have difficulty in producing—more than platitudes Page 8



Benn voted out as Shadow Cabinet shifts to the right

By Julian Haviland and Philip Webster

Mr Wedgwood Benn was last night voted out of the parliamentary leadership of the Labour Party—the Shadow Cabinet—for the second successive year. It was the result that he expected and forecast after Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, made plain last week that he did not want him in the team.

But Mr Benn, with 66 votes out of a possible 236, appeared last night to have drawn about a quarter of his support from those in the centre and right of the parliamentary party. No one doubted that, had he not incurred Mr Foot's hostility he would have been elected.

The results showed a marked shift to the centre right, with opponents of Mr Benn on both left and right of the party improving their positions. The left, outnumbered seven to five in the former Shadow Cabinet, are now outnumbered 10 to five in the enlarged 15-member group.

Mr Benn said as he emerged from the declaration: "Michael Foot is now imprisoned in a very right-wing Shadow Cabinet". Looking satisfied, he said that his was a "good solid vote, twice what I expected".

The 10 to five division suggests growing polarization in the parliamentary party, since the 10 were all on the recommended list drawn up by the right-wing Manifesto Group, and the five all on the rival Tribune Group list.

Mr Peter Shore came top of the poll with 147 votes, 22 more than his score last year. Mr Roy Hattersley, who came top last year, came third with 135 votes, eight fewer than last year.

Mr Eric Heffer was the sole left-winger among the newcomers, the others being Mr Brynmor John, Mr Bruce Millan, Mr Peter Archer and Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody.

Mr Benn was the only member to lose his place. In last year's election he was runner-up, and joined the Shadow Cabinet only after Mr William Rodgers left the party to start the Social Democrats in the spring.

Among successful left-wingers, Mr John Silkin moved up from seventh to fourth place and Mr Neil Kinnock, who was bitterly criticized by Benn supporters for supporting Mr Silkin for the deputy leadership and dividing the left, emerged as a rising star. He increased his vote from 90 to 118, rising from twelfth place to seventh.

It is notable that the three who headed the poll, Mr Shore, Mr Kaufman and Mr Hattersley, are all on the steering committee of Solidarity, the group formed last winter to assert the rights of the parliamentary party within the wider movement. Mr Shore and Mr Hattersley are Solidarity's joint chairmen.

Mr Benn conceded "almost certain" defeat six hours before the results were announced. In a radio interview he said he was paying the price for a stand on principle.

Unrepentant and defiant, although admitting that he had wished to be elected, he said

SHADOW CABINET VOTES

	Last yr	Votes
Peter Shore	(4th=)	147
Gerald Kaufman	(3rd)	142
Roy Hattersley	(1st)	135
John Silkin	(7th)	132
Eric Varley	(2nd)	131
Merlyn Rees	(4th=)	128
Neil Kinnock	(12th)	118
Albert Booth	(8th=)	114
John Smith	(11th)	111
Brynmor John	(15th)	105
Stan Orme	(6th)	104
Bruce Millan	(14th)	92
Eric Heffer	(16th)	84
Peter Archer	(21st)	83
Gwyneth Dunwoody	(32nd)	82

Last year's positions in the ballot are given in parentheses.

that the only basis for unity in the Labour Party were the policies agreed by the conference. "I am not prepared to accept that if you are in the Shadow Cabinet you must abandon or be asked to abandon the policy of the Labour Party", he said. "That is the important principle.

"I may pay the price for it. It is quite possible, almost certain I would have thought, that I will not be elected."

Putting the blame squarely on the shoulders of Mr Michael Foot, he remarked: "If the leader of the party says very strongly to Labour MPs 'I do not want this man in my Shadow Cabinet' then a lot of Labour MPs will respond.

"Therefore I will be what I have been for much of my life and for most of the period since the last election—a backbench MP."

Mr Benn accused the press of lying consistently about him. People should not think the respectable press were better, he said. He referred to an article printed in The Times during the deputy leadership contest. It had said that he had a farm in Essex and money in a tax haven in Bermuda. Both were complete falsehoods.

"Quite a lot of people believe the lies published in the papers. So they are disreputable. And The Times in this respect is a most disreputable paper."

After the results were announced Mr Benn said he would spend more time in his constituency and working on the national executive committee. He intended to speak at far more party meetings and more often in the Commons.

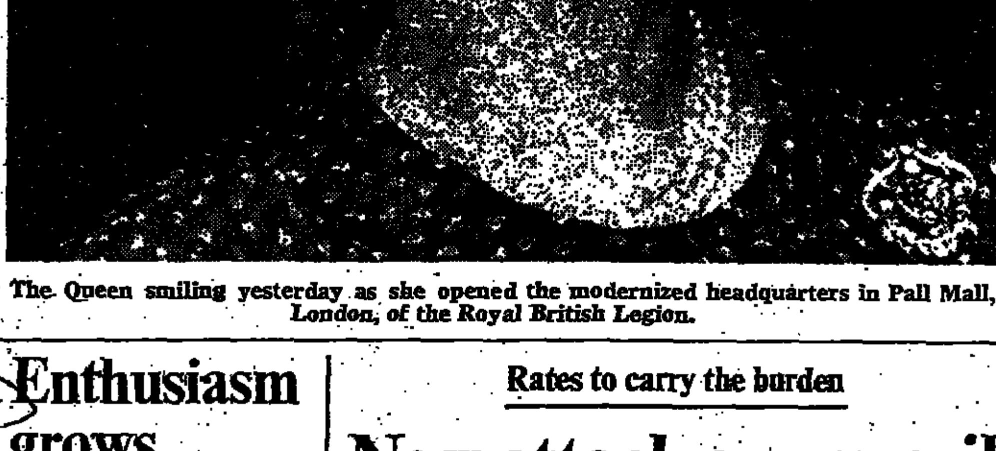
Mr Denis Healey said the result was satisfactory. "It is a well-balanced Shadow Cabinet. The best thing of all is that despite the number of people who have left the party the moderate members of the Shadow Cabinet maintained their vote."

Mr Kinnock declared himself pleased with his own result, but added that he would have liked to have seen more left-wingers elected.

The left were angry last night at the success of Mr John who, as spokesman on defence, has made clear his opposition to unilateral disarmament and who threatened to resign his post after the party conference in Brighton seven weeks ago voted for the closure of all nuclear bases in Britain.

He seems to have been rewarded for courage in hand-

Continued on back page, col 7



The Queen smiling yesterday as she opened the modernized headquarters in Pall Mall, London, of the Royal British Legion.

Hawk sold to US in £500m deal

By Henry Stanhope
Defnce Corespondent

Britain has won a £500m contract to sell Hawk pet-training aircraft to the United Sates navy. Abon 300 planes are involved in the deal.

The news was given to a delighted Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Denfence, in a trans-atlantic telephone call last night from Mr Caspar Weinberger, his opposite number in Washington.j

Now Whitehall sources are already talking about the chances of Britain doubling its money by clinching a similar and still more lucrative agreement with the United States air force who will be tempted to follow the Navy's lead.

The Hawk, which came into service several years ago as the RAF's new fast jet trainer, has been in fierce competition for over a year with American and European rivals.

Among them was the Franco-German Alpha-jet which was being offered to the United State Navy by a powerful consortium involving not only the German Dornier Co. but also American partners Lockheed.

But the presence of American competing designs also made it appear that the Haw had an uphill task ahead of it in persuading the United States Governcross tehe Atlanic.

Last night's announcement is therefore a considerable triumph for the consortium led by British Aerospace and also including their American partners McDonnell Douglas and the Sperry Organization.

Not that the success of the Hawk as a design has ever been in question. The RAF's 176 machines include those flown by the Red Arrows Aerobatic display team whose demonstrations around the world have given a powerful boost to British sales campaigns.

Altaogether more than 280 Hawks had been sold by British Aerospace before this latest package, including export orders to Finland, Indonesia, Kenya and Zimbabwe. The United Arab Emirates are also negotiating to buy 18 more and Iraq is among other countries who are interested.

But the American contract will give a tremendous fillip to British Aerospace and by expressing American confidence in the aircraft should make it the most sought after trainer in the world.

Mr Nott said that the outright win by Britain demonstrated tahe success of the industrial teaming arrangements made by British Aerospace and showed that the United Kingdom firm could compete with the best in the world.

The first batch of aircraft will be made in Britain while others are likely to be assembled in the United States from parts made in this country. It is generally expected that the order will do a lot of good for job prospects in British aerospace plants involved with the Hawk, at Kingston and Dunsfold in Surrey, at Brough, Yorkshire, and Hamble, Hampshire. Rolls-Royce who make the Adour engine will also hugely benefit from the deal.

'Dustbin' prison governor 'was right'

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, said yesterday he is to take no action against Mr John McCarthy, governor of Wormwood Scrubs prison, who wrote to The Times that he was "the manager of a large penal dustbin".

Mr Whitelaw was speaking to Mrs Jill Jones, chairman of the prison's board of visitors, and Mr E. J. Pauling, a former chairman. They told Mr Whitelaw they fully backed Mr McCarthy in his attack on "uncivilized conditions" in the prison system.

In his letter, published yesterday, Mr McCarthy said he could not for much longer tolerate "the inhumanity of the system within which I worked".

Mrs Jones and Mr Pauling went to see Mr Whitelaw about kitchen arrangements at the prison which result in cold food reaching distant inmates, and plans to refurbish 258 cells in "A" hall without installing integral sanitation.

Prisoners in the hall will have to continue to "slop out", the euphemism for emptying the contents of pots used in cells when lavatories are not available. The practice is condemned throughout the prison service as degrading and inhumane.

Mr Clive Soley, Labour MP for Hammersmith, North, is to raise the issue in a House of Commons Adjournment debate today.

Meanwhile, the Home Office is to look into the possibility of providing hot trolleys to carry the food. But to instal integral sanitation would result in delays to refurbishing plans, officials say.

Mrs Jones said: "We have for a good two years been trying to bring all these things up and no satisfactory answer is given. Now we are told there would be a delay. Last year we were told it was money."

Mr McCarthy's concern is widely shared throughout the prison service. The executive committee of the governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants has before it an instruction from senior governors of prisons in England and Wales to press for statutory restraints on the sentencing powers of courts.

Curbing the length of sentences is seen as a way of reducing dangerous overcrowding in the prison system. Mr Whitelaw has indicated he will not allow automatic early release for shorter sentence prisoners. Instead he favours giving courts new powers to suspend part of sentences.

However, a Government report last May said it was uncertain if suspending part of a sentence would reduce numbers in custody.

Mr Tony Fitzpatrick, secretary of the governors' branch of the society, said yesterday: "We think that Mr McCarthy is a brave man for speaking out and we applaud him for doing that. It is a measure of Mr McCarthy's frustrations and the frustrations of governors in general that he felt it necessary to state his position to The Times."

The 'penal dustbin', page 12

Enthusiasm grows for Reagan initiative

By Our Foreign Staff

President Reagan yesterday basked in the almost universal warmth with which his offer to negotiate sweeping arms cuts with the Soviet Union has been greeted.

The only hostile reaction has come from the Eastern block, particularly Moscow, where the proposals were described as a quest for unilateral military advantage and designed to be unacceptable to the Soviet Union.

West European Mr Reagan's governments have reacted to speech in an almost euphoric fashion and comment in the United States press and in Congress has been very favourable.

The main point to strike American observers was not so much the content of the speech as the tone. It was noted, for instance, that the President's words lacked any sense of belligerancy towards the Soviet Union.

Instead of denouncing anti-nuclear protesters in Europe, the President had tried to explain to them why Nato had originally taken the decision to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and ground-based truise missiles in Europe.

This change of tone is taken to signify that the Administration has become aware of the damage that earlier statements by the President and senior officials have done to America's relations with its European allies and a realization that new currents are flowing that could radically change the way in which Europeans view the United States.

For all the enthusiasm, it has already become clear that Mr. Reagan's gesture in offering to cancel the deployment of new American medium-range missiles in Europe may soon get lost once the talks between Washington and Moscow begin in Geneva on November 30.

Two key areas of certain contention between the United States and the Soviet Union during the talks have emerged as a result of close analysis of the President's speech.

These centre on the complex question of how planned reduction in the two superpowers' nuclear arsenals can be verified and the Soviet contention that American forward-based missiles on submarines and bombers as well as British and French nuclear weapons should be included from the outset of the negotiations on reducing intermediate-range missiles in Europe.

Noting the hostile Soviet reaction to the President's four-point arms reduction programme, Mr Richard Perle, the Assistant Defence Secretary for international security policy, who coordinates American and

Continued on back page, col 1

Rates to carry the burden

New attack on council spending planned

By Diana Geddes and David Walker

Ministers have decided to cut the Government's contribution to council spending by several percentage points. Each one per cent cut will require local authorities to find about £200m from the rates, if they are to maintain the same level of expenditure.

A special Cabinet committee on the rate support grant, chaired by Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, threw out a proposal from the Treasury to cut the Government's share of council spending in England from the present 59 per cent to 50 per cent.

Ministers argued that the consequent rate rises would be too horrifying to contemplate. It would be embarrassing for the Government to raise the burden on ratepayers while pushing through legislation designed to protect them.

The likely size of rate increases is almost impossible to estimate at this stage. Officials have calculated that if the rate support grant was cut to 57 per cent, for example, and councils agreed to meet spending limits, bills would go up by 11 per cent. However, local authorities estimate that rate increases are likely to begin at a higher figure, even without a cut in the rate support grant.

Ministers have also decided to quicken the pace at which councils will lose grant if they spend more than the Government's guidelines on what authorities ought to spend to provide a standard service.

If a council next year exceeds its grant-related expenditure assessment (GREA), calculated in advance by the Department of the Environment, it will lose grant at a sharply increasing rate.

That penalty will be in addition to proposals contained in the Local Government Finance Bill, now facing a stormy parliamentary passage. Under the Bill, councils wishing to spend at a certain level above its GREA will be forced to hold a referendum.

Officially, budgeted council expenditure in England and Wales is still £1,000m above the Government's plans announced in the Public Expenditure White Paper last March. Even on the assumption that actual spending is going to be less than the amount budgeted, councils would have to make severe cuts to get back on course.

Ministers have now accepted that the job losses involved, especially in teaching, are not merely politically undesirable but impossible in practice. Official planning assumptions for local authority spending in 1982-83 have now been relaxed.

The Government has already announced a reduction of about 2 per cent in council spending in 1982-83 in real terms. That cut will remain, but will be subtracted from a new baseline which takes account of this year's overspending by local authorities.

Officials have calculated that if councils keep to this new base and the rate support grant remains 59 per cent, rates will have to rise by only about 5 per cent. That seems to allow the Government scope to cut its grant without too dramatic an increase in rates, because each 1 per cent cut in the Government's share of local spending should result in an increase of about 2½ per cent in rates.

Ministers have to reach decisions on these proportions within the next fortnight if they are to inform local councils of their rate support grant before Christmas. Keeping to that timetable is going to be difficult.

Shadow of new recession looms over Britain

By Melvyn Westlake

Britain's economic recovery looks like being very short-lived and a new recession is already looming on the horizon. Business activity could be turning down again by next summer, according to government figures published yesterday.

Worrying evidence of a recession next year is accumulating just when there are indications that economic activity is showing signs of picking up after the deepest postwar slump in national output. Yesterday's figures, prepared by government economists at the Central Statistical Office, now raise considerable doubts about the strength and duration of the recovery.

The CSO's composite index of longer leading indicators, which attempts to predict swings in the economy 12 months ahead, fell in October for the fifth consecutive month.

This index has now fallen 4¾ per cent from its peak early last summer. The Central Statistical Office, which is usually reticent about the figures it produces, now says that "if further data do not remove this downturn (in the index) it might suggest some hesitation in economic growth in mid-1982".

It will be a considerable blow to the Government of the index is accurately predicting what will happen. Ministers have been anxiously looking for signs that things are getting better. Only on Monday, Mrs Thatcher told a City audience at the Lord Mayor's annual Guildhall banquet that there was now real evidence of a recovery.

The composite index of longer leading indicators is made up of several components. Most of these point to a weakening of the economy, including the rise in interest rates, a fall in share prices and a weakening in business optimism reported by the latest survey of the Confederation of British Industry.

Another composite index, which is used to indicate the present state of the economy, however, reinforces government claims that the 1979-81 slump may have passed its worst. This index has now been rising for five consecutive months, suggesting the economy began to revive in the early summer.

Other figures published yesterday by the Department of Industry, show that manufacturing industry is still suffering from the backwash of the two-year slide in output. New investment this year by manufacturing industry in buildings, vehicles, plant and machinery will fall by more than in any year for at least a decade.

Investment by manufacturers fell by 5 per cent in the third quarter alone. Unless there is some recovery in the final months of this year, the fall in such investment will be more than 15 per cent during the year as a whole. This is broadly in line with what is indicated by government surveys of investment intentions and predictions by the CBI. The CBI also thinks there could be a further drop of up to 10 per cent in manufacturing investment next year. The drop in new capital spending in the manufacturing sector must increase the concern about deindustrialization in Britain. By contrast capital investment by the distributive and service industries seems set to rise this year.

The Department of Industry's figures also show that destocking is continuing throughout much of the economy, but at a rather slower rate.

Total stocks fell in 1980 by more than 2 per cent of the value of the whole economy. The drop in stocks this year will still be substantial, though less than in 1980.

Sussex university forfeits £½m after tomato-throwing

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Sussex University has lost a £500,000 research grant after the incident last week in which tomatoes were thrown at Dr David Owen, joint leader of the Social Democrats, as he addressed a student meeting.

The university had applied for the grant to the Rayne Foundation, a small, private grant-awarding body, and was on a short list when the tomato-throwing incident occurred.

Sussex was later informed that it would not get the grant. One of the directors of the foundation is understood to have said that the tomato-throwing incident, together with a previous student protest, were among the main reasons for the refusal of the grant. The foundation would not comment yesterday.

Dr David Owen said last night that if the grant had been refused because of the incident, it was a ridiculous decision.

"The university's application should have been considered on its merits and not linked with an incident involving only a few students", he said.

The university has not yet identified which student or students were responsible for throwing the tomatoes. Dr Owen gave chase but was restrained, and the culprits escaped in the confusion.

Striding towards the cashless society

The London clearing banks agreed yesterday to go ahead with plans for a new electronic system of paying for goods in the shops in a move which is sure to hasten the advent of the cashless society (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

The new payments system would involve using electronic point-of-sale terminals which would be linked to central computers at the banks. Customers would be able to pay for goods with a plastic card and the payment would be debited directly to their bank account or credit card account.

The banks agreed yesterday to set up a senior policy committee and a small full-time project team to take the work forward. Talks will be held over the next few months with banks, card issuing organizations, potential suppliers, retailers and British Telecom.

Mr Jeffrey Benson, chief executive of National Westminster said the agreement was a move towards the plastic card era.

There have been talks on cooperation among the banks on a point-of-sale payments system for some time but these have failed to reach agreement. Barclays introduced a less sophisticated pilot point-of-sale scheme last year called Counterspeed involving six petrol stations in the Norwich area and has since experimented with immediate debit in a scheme called Supercash. This allows customers to draw cash at a Mainstop store at Wymondham in Norfolk by using a cash card or Barclaycard.

□ Bingo, which nearly killed the neighbourhood cinema, could prove the salvation of filmfans (Philip Robinson writes). After years of closing down film outlets to hand them over to bingo callers, Thorn EMI has started to reverse the trend, thanks to video technology.

The first place to benefit is the Gloucestershire town of Cirencester which lost its only cinema when EMI turned the site into a bingo hall.

Now the company has installed two small video cinemas in the unused balcony of the hall, enabling it to operate the premises both for bingo and feature films. Mr Ian Riches, theatre operations executive for EMI, said the company was pleased with the results and planning to introduce video cinemas into more of its 90-plus bingo halls up and down the country.

Optimistic Howe discounts Tory scepticism

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Continued optimism about the nation's economic prospects came from Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the Commons yesterday.

Confirming the hopeful mood of the Prime Minister at the Lord Mayor's Banquet on Monday and Wednesday's encouraging output and earnings figures, Sir Geoffrey told the House that the worst of the recession was probably over.

Figures for the third quarter of the year showed that manufacturing output rose by 1½ per cent, output in chemicals and allied industries by 6 per cent and in engineering and allied industries by 2 per cent. That evidence, he said, confirmed his earlier judgment that the worst was behind us.

A few minutes later Mrs Margaret Thatcher was also reinforcing the view that government strategy remains on course when she told the House that inflation was "in general" still falling.

Because of the change in the exchange rate, the Prime Minister said, there might be further immediate increases in the inflation rate. After that the downward trend would be resumed.

It was noticeable that in spite of repeated questions from the Labour benches neither Treasury ministers nor the Prime Minister would say when the rate, now at 11.7 per cent, would be reduced to single figures, previously predicted for the end of the year.

But it seemed clear that the optimistic in the more refined air near the summit of government was not being reflected among the sceptics on the Tory back benches, let alone in the Labour outback.

Mr Jack Straw, on the opposition front bench, pointed out that during questions to the Chancellor only three of 16 interventions from Tory MPs had been even remotely sympathetic to Sir Geoffrey and his policies.

Whether or not Mr Straw's estimate was strictly accurate, it must have been evident to the Chancellor that he was not yet carrying his own side with him.

One Tory MP after another urged him to give greater consideration to the proposals being put forward for more expenditure on capital projects in the public sector aimed at reducing unemployment. Although Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Lord Privy Seal, now banished to the back benches, was not in the House yesterday, his alternative strategy was never far from the minds of most MPs.

To cheers from the Labour benches, Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexleyheath, suggested that there was a clear, common-sense case for Government funding of carefully costed capital projects. Among other Tories who took up the cry were Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) and Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Huddersfield, West).

But Sir Geoffrey was adamant that it remained important to curtail the growth of the public sector.

Call for investment

☐ Mr Peter Tapsell, Conservative MP for Horncastle and a former frontbench spokesman on Treasury affairs, called on the Government last night to recognize the "growing force of Tory opinion" in favour of a programme of selective capital investment to stimulate the public and business sectors of the economy (Philip Webster writes).

Only by such means could unemployment be prevented from rising still further, inflation be contained within single figures, international competitiveness maintained and the quality of national life preserved, he told a Conservative audience.

Rates Bill talks

☐ Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, will meet Conservative backbenchers early next week to discuss the opposition to his local Government Finance Bill. But government sources last night confirmed that speculation about the withdrawal of the referendum provision was premature.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Nissan study of plan to end strikes

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The pioneering "no strike deal" struck between Toshiba, the Japanese electronics firm, and the electrians' union could have a big part to play in the future of Nissan's project to build a £200,000-a-year car plant in Britain using a workforce of 4,000.

The news that the 300 employees at Toshiba's Plymouth plant have agreed to substitute an independent arbitrator for the British workers' ultimate bargaining weapon coincides with a new statement from Nissan on the progress of its British plans.

It shows that the supposedly uncompetitive price of British components is no longer the main stumbling block. The project now hinges on two other factors: the attitude of local authorities to having the plant in their area, and obtaining acceptable deals with trade unions.

The latest issue of *The Engineer* quotes Mr Masataka Okuma, Nissan's executive vice-president in charge of overseas operations, as saying in a Tokyo interview that the results of the feasibility study have been "positive so far". But he adds: "If the negotiations with the unions and local authorities are very unsatisfactory, then it is possible we will give up the idea."

Nissan is insisting on a greenfield site away from established motor industry areas because it feels traditional working practices and multiunion negotiations would make it impossible for it to obtain the flexibility of labour necessary in such a highly automated factory.

Toshiba has overcome the multiunion problem by conceding sole bargaining rights to the electricians' union. Nissan wants the same sort of deal and is encouraged by Toshiba's breakthrough.

It believes that the one-class society which prevails in its own plants, directors and workers wearing the same uniform and eating in the same canteen, can break down class barriers in British industry.

It points to the success other Japanese firms have enjoyed by introducing that system in their British subsidiaries, particularly when it is allied to management worker advisory boards.

Preliminary talks took place some months ago between Nissan executives and Mr Mostyn Evans, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and Mr Terence Duffy, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. They are expected to resume in the new year, with the TUC watching the interests of smaller unions.

☐ Businessmen in north-west England were discussing the possibility yesterday of introducing Japanese-style working methods to improve productivity and quality (the Press Association reports).

More than eighty industrialists discussed the "quality circle" at a seminar organized by the Confederation of British Industry in Warrington.

Cudlipp switches to SDP

By a Staff Reporter

Lord Cudlipp, the Labour peer, yesterday resigned the Labour whip in the House of Lords and said he was joining the Social Democratic Party.

He said he was taking that step because he saw "not the slightest hope of any change in foreseeable time in the official policies I regard as disastrous for our country, notably unilateral nuclear disarmament and leaving the Common Market, which buys nearly 50 per cent of our exports". He also favoured reform of the House of Lords, not its abolition.

Lord Cudlipp, one of three sons of a Welsh grocer who all became editors of Fleet Street newspapers, led the *Daily Mirror's* election campaigns in favour of Labour from 1951 until his retirement in 1973. He also became chairman of the IPC and the Mirror Group.

With his defection the number of converts to the SDP has reached at least 46, equally divided between the two houses of Parliament.

Malcolm Clarke

Simon Figg, aged 10, a spina bifida sufferer, presenting Mrs Margaret Thatcher with a bouquet at the annual meeting of Action Research in London yesterday.

Premenstrual sufferers sent to hairdresser

From Our Correspondent, Birmingham

Dr Norman Imlah, head of All Saints' Hospital for psychiatric patients, in Birmingham, said yesterday that a hairdresser's salon might be a better place to treat premenstrual tension (PMT) than a doctor's surgery.

After recent publicity about PMT more women had been coming forward for help. But drugs might be of value only in the rare cases of the most serious kind. It could be dangerous to tinker with a woman's hormones. There would be side-effects.

He is referring patients to the hospital's hairdressing salon, where the occupational therapy staff found that they often learnt more about the difficulties facing a depressed woman than they did in consulting rooms.

The hospital has asked Mr Philip Braid, a hair stylist from London, to tell occupational therapy staff how hairdressers relax their customers.

Dr Imlah said: "Premenstrual tension is a very real problem and it can play its part in the break-up of a marriage. It may be that hairdressers have given more help than anyone realizes, and we are investigating to see if there is anything that we can learn".

Mr Braid, who paid his first visit to the hospital yesterday, said: "All hairdressers try to make a woman leave the salon relaxed and feeling beautiful".

Troubles brew over BSC, seamen and BL

Steelmen may ban overtime over job losses

By Clifford Webb, David Felton and Donald Macintyre

Leaders of the biggest steel union will consider this morning calling a national overtime ban in a protest over wages, working hours and plans to cut more than 15,000 jobs in the industry.

The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation will consider the move, less than 24 hours after being told that British Steel Corporation losses have been more than halved over the last four months to £1.6m a week.

The confederation executive will meet in the wake of several hours of talks yesterday with Mr Peter Broxham, BCS's industrial relations director, and eight of his senior colleagues at the union's London headquarters.

Mr Broxham went to the ISTC meeting to urge the union to lift its ban on the local negotiations which BSC's chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, has said constitute the only method of yielding more money this two years.

Mr MacGregor told the industry's 108,000 employees that there will be no national pay increase this year and that any further cash negotiated at plant level must be on the basis of "something for something".

The union's anger has been increased by BSC's further plans to cut the labour force to 90,000 which moses after reductions of 70,000 in the last

☐ BL management will have to wait until Sunday before learning whether the "tea break" strike which has stopped all car production at its Longbridge factory goes into a third week. By then it will have cost production of about 12,000 cars, worth over £50m.

A mass meeting of the 2,200 workforce yesterday voted by four to one to stay out but agreed to meet again on Sunday morning. A hall has been booked away from the plant.

The company is still insisting that the reduction in the working week from 40 to 39 hours should be financed by cutting the men's daily relaxation allowance from 52 to 40 minutes.

☐ Hopes of averting a Ford strike next week were resting last night with crucial talks on Monday aimed at finding a compromise which could yield improvements to the company's 4.5 per cent pay offer.

The Ford management is expected to challenge union negotiators to come up with an effective alternative to clauses which would mean loss of earnings unless efficiency criteria were met.

☐ The seamen's union will decide on Monday whether to halt sailings of all P & O vessels in Britain and Europe in protest at the company's closure last week of the Liverpool-Belfast service. The company suspended for 24 hours an order that ratings already taking sympathetic action should be dismissed if they continued refusing to sail.

A call for wider action came earlier this week at a meeting in Liverpool of 20 senior shop stewards of the National Union of Seamen (NUS) from ferry ports around the country. Those stewards will join the union's executive on Monday to decide whether to spread the action. Another call was made last night for the dispute to be stepped up into an immediate all-out strike by British seamen. The demand came from a small group of P & O union members.

P & O said that yesterday seven of its ferries were tied up in British ports because ratings were supporting colleagues occupying the Ulster Prince and Ulster Queen in Liverpool. Both vessels were withdrawn from service nine days ago.

The masters of the seven ships had been told by the company on Wednesday night to dismiss the 100 or so ratings if they continued with their refusal to sail. P & O believes that several of the crews want to sail but do not want to be seen as the first breaking the action.

Lords back homeless law change

By David Walker

Pressure is growing again on the Government to repeal or substantially to amend the law compelling councils to provide for the homeless.

In a House of Lords ruling yesterday Lord Wilberforce suggested that the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, 1977, needed reconsideration. He and four fellow Law Lords unanimously established the rights of a Bangladesh immigrant family to be housed by the London Borough of Hillingdon, but added: "Many foreseeable difficulties remain".

The Lords judgment is being studied in the Department of the Environment, where officials have had the controversial Act under review. The Act has been subject to judicial review in the High Court on a dozen occasions.

In a first response to the judgment, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said it could mean many thousands of British families at present excluded from the definition of homeless having a claim on council housing. The difficulty, Mr Peter McGurk, the association's housing under-secretary, said, was that there were no houses available to accommodate them.

The Law Lords were considering an appeal by Mr Tafuzzul Islam against a ruling by Lord Denning and Sir Denys Buckley in the Court of Appeal in May that the Islam family were not eligible under the 1977 Act.

The migration of Mr Islam's wife and children to Britain in 1980 from Bangladesh meant that they were intentionally homeless, so Hillingdon council had no obligation to help them.

Conservative-controlled Hillingdon has long disputed the fairness of the 1977 Act's application to immigrants; the council is the local authority nearest to Heathrow airport. In 1978 Mr Terence Dicks, the chairman of housing, had a Kenyan family taken from the airport to the Foreign Office to demonstrate the burden imposed on the council by new arrivals.

The council leader, Mr John Watts, yesterday referred to Hillingdon as the housing authority of the world, complaining that ratepayers were paying a £300,000 bill for temporary accommodation for airport arrivals.

Law Report, page 10



Members of the cast of "Her Royal Highness", a new comedy which opens at the Palace Theatre, London, tomorrow. From left: Gwen Nelson (the Queen Mother), Morar Kennedy (the Queen), Francis Lloyd (Prince Andrew), Eva Lohman (Princess of Wales), Marc Sinden (Prince of Wales) and Rona Anderson (Mrs Shand Kydd).

Princess Anne faces animal protest

Princess Anne returns to London today from a 10-day visit to Nepal amid strong protests about her conduct from British animal lovers. (David Cross writes).

According to reports from Katmandu, she watched a young buffalo tied to a stake being savaged by a wild tiger.

Mr Richard Course, executive director of the League Against Cruel Sports, yesterday described the incident as a "discredit" to the British Royal Family. Lord Houghton of Sowerby said that members of the Royal Family should not allow themselves to be led into such occasions and Miss Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake, said it was "utterly wrong" to tether an animal where it had no chance to escape.

Both pointed out, however, that it was sometimes difficult for official visitors like Princess Anne to forgo such exhibitions without offending their hosts.

☐ The Princess of Wales is returning to her family home today for the first time since her marriage on July 29

The Princess, aged 20, who is expecting a baby next June, has telephoned Lord Spencer, her father, regularly but her honeymoon and a busy schedule of engagements have kept away from Althorp, the family home in Northamptonshire, since before her marriage.

She will have lunch with her father and Lady Spencer, her stepmother, on the way to her second solo public engagement. She is to open new premises for handling the Royal Mail in the Northampton area this afternoon.

Yesterday the Princess who was looking fit and well after her recent bout of morning sickness, went to Hyde Park to plant three trees, two to commemorate her marriage at St Paul's Cathedral and one for her unborn child.

Her husband also planted three trees in a copse in Hyde Park in remembrance of Lord Mountbatten of Burma, his late great uncle.

☐ The Princess of Wales has a Welsh hero's blood in her veins—that of Owen Glendower, the last independent Prince of Wales, according to Mr. Patrick Montague-Smith, the genealogist.

In the early fifteenth-century Glendower led a national rebellion during which he defeated the King's army three times. Mr Montague-Smith, former editor of *Debrett*, says the Princess is descended from Glendower's sister.

Diary, page 12

Hunger striker died after being caged, family says

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr George Wilkinson, who died in Walton jail, in Liverpool, after being on hunger strike, was earlier kept for 18 months in two cells with wire doors, representatives of his family said yesterday.

Mr Michael Jupp, who has been helping to look after their interests, said there was evidence at the inquest on him in May, 1980, that he was being kept in cells with cage doors.

A report on the inquest in the *New Statesman* by Terry Munyard, now a barrister, said: "He was kept for 18 months in two cage-barred white painted cells, one of which had a wall specially built outside the window to cut him off from the outside world.

"And for most of his last four years (which he spent in no fewer than 10 different prison establishments) he was in solitary confinement."

The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure. Mr Wilkinson was serving 10 years for robbery and other offences. Mr Munyard wrote that he had been involved in two hostage-taking incidents in prison.

The Times yesterday reported that Mr Robert Mawdsley, a four times killer, had written that during his confinement in a zoo-like cell at Wakefield Prison he was mentally and physically being turned into an animal. He has been in solitary confinement for three and a half years...

The wire door is fitted behind the usual heavy outer door of the cell which in normal circumstances, the Home Office says, can be closed if the prisoner wishes. An official said the wire door was to allow the prisoner to look out.

The National Prisoners Organization (Prop) said, however, that the type of cell was inhuman and degrading.

Mr Douglas Wakefield, another killer, who has prepared a submission this week to the European Commission of Human Rights, wrote in a booklet, *A Thousand Days of Solitary*: "I was transferred to Durham Prison, where I was placed not on the wing that was being used to house all the other Hull prisoners, but in what is commonly termed 'The Cage'".

He added: "The Cage consists of four prison cells that are located on a basement buildinng that lays (sic) immediately below the wing that is used to house punishments. . . . It is actually separated from the wing proper by a large steel gateway which is surrounded by an even larger steel grille

Shown a picture of a cell in Durham, with a door similar to the one pictured in *The Times* yesterday, the Home Office said it had no reason to doubt its authenticity.

Mr Roy Barter, the Merseyside Coroner, told the jury in his summing up at the inquest on Mr Wilkinson that there was no evidence that he had been physically ill treated

£3m tax fraud sentences

Bernard Chu, aged 35, of Brixton, London, an accountant found guilty of taking part in a conspiracy which cheated the Inland Revenue of about £3m and the Customs and Excise of about £500,000, was given a 12 months' jail term, suspended for two years.

Wing Chu, of Richmond, Surrey, alleged to be number two in the operation, was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud and plotting to evade value-added tax. He was given a two-year term, suspended for two years.

The fraud had been set up and directed by William Young, head of the Richmond Rendezvous Group. Mr Young was earlier given a suspended sentence.

Five trawlermen feared lost

Four seamen were believed to be dead last night after the scattered wreckage of Tornado, a Belgian trawler, was found six miles north of Pendeen, near Land's End. The body of a fifth, Mr Marcel Devoort, the skipper, was picked up by another Belgian vessel.

The trawler is believed to have sunk in gales which swept the Channel on Wednesday.

Two Royal Navy helicopters, two Cornish lifeboats and several other vessels joined the search for the remaining four members of the crew. Hopes of finding them alive in the icy seas faded as darkness fell and the search was called off. The Tornado's lifebelt was found floating empty. All five men are thought to be Belgian.

No limit on student grant funds

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The Government has decided that it would be impossible to impose a cash limit on the total amount spent on student grants, despite its wish to keep down public spending in that area. Such a limit would have meant the introduction of quotas for students in higher education.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the Commons Select Committee on Education last week that he was "inclining toward the Public Accounts Committee's recommendation on cash-limiting student awards if we can make it work".

However, in its reply to the Public Accounts Committee, published in a Treasury minute on Tuesday, the Government makes clear that limiting maintenance grants in that way is not feasible, and would require new legislation. Under the law, every student accepted for a higher education course is entitled to an award.

The Department of Education and Science says in the minute that it would consider further the possibility of extending the system of cash limits to maintenance awards, but that that would require new mechanisms of allocation and control of awards and those could prove to be "disproportionately burdensome".

To impose a cash limit on student grants would be almost as difficult as imposing a cash limit on unemployment benefits.

The Government, however, is pressing ahead with its plans to cut some 10 per cent, or nearly £100m, from spending on student awards next year. No decision has yet been taken on what share of those cuts should be borne by an increase in the parental contribution and what by a cut in real terms in the maximum maintenance grant.

It is virtually certain that the universities' grant will not be cut next year more than the 3 per cent already planned. There had been fears that the cut would be larger than expected.

Figures published yesterday by the department show that 323,000 students received mandatory awards in England and Wales in 1979-80, 1 per cent more than in the previous year.

Killer of a judge threatens another

The murderer of a judge started a minimum 25-year jail term last night after threatening to "cut the throat" of the judge who sentenced him.

John Smith, aged 31, who kept a "hit list" which included other judges and two top politicians, shouted: "I won't forget you" to Mr Justice Lawson as he was taken from the dock at Leeds Crown Court. "I'll cut your throat when I get out", he shouted.

Mr Smith, of no fixed address, had been found guilty of murdering Judge William Openshaw, aged 68, who gave him an 18-month borstal sentence 13 years ago. After the verdict he said: "I am not sorry for what I have done".

Earlier Mr Michael Maguire, QC, for the prosecution, told the court that Mr Smith went to Judge Openshaw's home at Broughton near Preston, in May "full of hate and bent upon revenge", intending to settle what he considered to be an old score.

He hid in the rafters of the judge's garage one night. When the judge went into the garage the next morning Mr Smith dropped down and stabbed him 12 times with a knife. The judge died from multiple stab wounds to the head, neck and chest.

Mr Smith was surprised by the judge's wife, who ran to call the police. He fled and waved down Mr Walter Hide, a passing motorist, and forced him at knifepoint to drive to Scotland. In a wood near Hawick Mr Smith tied Mr Hide to a tree, took his money and drove off in his car.

Det. Chief Inspector Geoffrey Meadows said that he had asked Mr Smith: "Why did you do it, John?"

He said that Mr Smith replied: "Because he was a bastard. He sent me down the first time on five charges, unauthorized taking, housebreaking and shop-breaking. He never gave me a chance"

A plea of not guilty was entered on Mr Smith's behalf

The jury also found him guilty of kidnapping Mr Hide and were discharged from giving a verdict on a charge of false imprisonment. On the kidnapping charge he was sentenced to five years, to run concurrently with the life sentence.

Science report

Badgers' diet is mainly of worms

By Tony Samstag

For many years badgers have been described as omnivorous and opportunistic feeders, meaning that they would eat almost anything available. More recent studies have found that the earthworm plays such an important part in their diet that the word "specialist" might be more appropriate.

In fact, according to an article in the latest issue of the *Journal of Animal Ecology*, both are true. H. Kruuk and T. Parish of the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology studied badger faeces collected from six sites in Scotland at twice-monthly intervals between 1975 and 1978. According to their analysis, earthworms were by far the most important food item, constituting more than half the badgers' diet.

The next most common items were rabbits, cereals, insects and pignuts, in that order, altogether 28 per cent of the diet. There was further evidence that the badgers had eaten amphibia, birds, stoats and other small mammals, carrion, leaves, fruits and fungi.

The authors noted that "the importance of earthworms in the food did not vary much through the year, despite fluctuations in our measures of availability". In other words, when earthworms were scarce, the badgers made more strenuous efforts to find them.

"This would be the foraging pattern of a worm-specialist which makes use of opportunities provided by the availability of other foods" The findings also confirmed the dependence on agriculture of the badger: "the relevant species of worm, *Lumbricus terrestris*, is associated with farmland. . ."

Source: *Feeding specialization of the European badger, Meles meles, in Scotland*, by H. Kruuk and T. Parish. *Journal of Animal Ecology (1981), vol 50 no 3, pp 773-788*, British Ecological Society, 62 London Road, Reading RG1 5AS.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Social service chiefs protest to Fowler

Mr Norman Fowler, the new Secretary of State for Social Services, was left in no doubt yesterday of the growing unpopularity among senior social services officers and politicians of cuts in spending and proposals to control further local government finance (Pat Healy writes from Birmingham).

After he arrived in Birmingham to address the annual local authority social services conference, he was presented with statements from both the main local authority associations and the Association of Directors of Social Services urging that the rates Bill be dropped.

The associations said they were as concerned at the likely impact on vulnerable people as at the threat to local democracy.

The conference was not reassured by Mr Fowler's statement that he believed local authority social services to be crucial to the well-being of Britain, and he faced a barrage of increasingly angry questions.

Mr Fowler replied that social services could not be exempted from public spending policies which were designed to secure economic and industrial recovery.

The cost to the workless

Unemployment can lead to ill health because it usually means a fall in income and often results in more drinking, smoking and stress, a report published today says.

The Unemployment Alliance, a group of organizations concerned with the low paid and disadvantaged, claims in the report that high levels of unemployment are also clearly linked with child abuse and suicide

"However, when the whole range of the research work focusing on ill health is taken into account it seems to imply that our current incomplete understanding of the social consequences of unemployment is leading to a considerable underestimate of the magnitude of their costs", it says.

Ill Health and Unemployment Briefing Paper No 2 (Unemployment Alliance, 26 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3HU).

Two remanded over gelignite

Two men were remanded in custody for four days by magistrates in Dolgellau, Gwynedd, yesterday, on charges relating to the theft of explosives from a quarry near Corris Clwyd, last weekend.

Ian McMillan, aged 27, unemployed, of Biggerstaff Street, Finsbury Park, London was charged with criminal damage to a shed and theft of 200 sticks of gelignite and 50 detonators. Raymond Hanney aged 41, a scrap metal dealer, of Sunnyhill Road, Streatham, London, was charged with assisting in the disposal of stolen explosives.

Law Lords dismiss bomber's appeal

An attempt by one of six IRA men, convicted of the Birmingham public house bombings in 1974 to sue police over alleged assaults and threats failed yesterday.

Five Law Lords unanimously dismissed an appeal by Robert Gerrard Hunter, who is serving a life sentence.

BBC service halted

A 48-hour strike affecting the BBC's Portuguese service to Africa and Europe began last night after an allegation by Teresa Guerreiro, a programme assistant, that she is being denied a permanent post because of her union activities. The BBC deny the claim. She is a branch official of the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs.

Man's finger sewn on

A man aged 20 who lost three fingers in an accident with a circular saw, had one sewn back on in a seven-hour operation at Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire, yesterday. The accident took place at Alton Industrial Estate Hampshire.

Mortgage cover against job loss

The Provincial Building Society is launching an insurance scheme for new borrowers which will cover their mortgage repayments for up to two years if they are made redundant.

On a £15,000 mortgage at 15 per cent over 25 years, the premium would be £3.28 a month and would pay £206.71 a month if the borrower became redundant.

Doctors accuse pickets

Doctors at the London Hospital, in Whitechapel, east London, claimed last night that striking porter members of the National Union of Public Employees turned away 103 patients in need of urgent treatment at the picketed entrance on Wednesday.

Baby case nears end

The jury at Norwich Crown Court is expected to retire today to consider its verdict in the case in which Mrs Christina Caesar and her lover are accused of the manslaughter of Jason Caesar, who died, aged 19 months, in a bedroom at their home.

Eight hurt in blast

Eight people were badly burnt when an explosion blew out the walls of a custard factory at General Foods, Banbury, Oxfordshire.



Overseas selling prices



Evicted builder 'failed to understand deal'

A builder whose family was evicted from their home of 16 years when a solicitor insisted on his rights under a "buy-back" clause did not understand the terms on which he bought the house, his counsel told the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Mr Gerald Godfrey, QC, said that Mr Thomas Danby was hard up and homeless when he agreed to buy a cottage at Elloughton, near Hull, from Mr Richard Langdale, a solictor.

Mr Langdale owed a duty to Mr Danby to explain the terms of the sale, which included a clause allowing the solicitor to buy back the house at its original price even after 21 years.

As it was, the sale turned on "a deal between a solicitor and an impecunious and effectively homeless self-employed builder", counsel said. Mr Langdale acted as Mr Danby's solicitor during the deal but should have encouraged him to take independent legal advice.

Mr Danby, aged 43, his wife Patricia, and their three children were evicted from the cottage in September. They had bought it from Mr Langdale in 1965 for £2,262.

In 1979 Mr Langdale won a court order to repurchase the cottage for his daughter, though it was then worth £25,000. Since their eviction the Danbys have been living with relatives.

Their appeal yesterday was against that court order. Mr Godfrey told Lord Denning, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Fox that in a perfect world the Court of Appeal should decide the matter there and then. But because the full facts of the case had not been aired at the original trial it was likely that all the court could do was order a new trial.

In 1964, he said, Mr and Mrs Langdale bought a big house and a cottage in five acres at Brookdale, Elloughton, for £11,500. The cottage was sold to the Danbys, who paid for it partly with a building society mortgage and partly with a loan from the Langdales.

The buy-back clause was part of the agreement. Mr Godfrey said he would argue that, in drafting such a clause to run over such a long period, it would have been appropriate to provide fot a valuation of the property instead of fixing the price at 1965 levels.

It was clear, he said, that the Danbys' case had not been put fully before Mr Justice (now Lord Justice) Oliver in 1979. He could not default the judge's decision, but "a summary judgment, such as this, is a very harh thing."

The case continues today.

The Crosby candidates, 1: John Butcher (Conservative)



On the hustings: Mr Butcher puts the Tory view.

Confident but not complacent

From John Chartres, Crosby

The Conservative candidate's day began with a morning call and tea at 6.30 am in the room at the Royal Hotel on Crosby's "riverfront" where he is staying with his wife, Carol.

At 7 am Mr Butcher, a former Royal Naval Reserve officer, was sitting down to a full English, working breakfast.

The work consisted mainly of reading the morning papers brought to him by Mr William Haresnape, his even earlier rising press aide.

At 7.40 a little convoy of two modest Maxi cars departed for Waterloo Station, on the Southport-Liverpool line, which a lot of people have now discovered is not only the reason for the 80,000 constituents in Crosby but also provides very good canvassing, lobbying and straw-polling facilities on the six stations.

Mr Butcher, arrayed in a military style overcoat despite his naval background, a checked flat hat and a maroon scarf, shook or attempted to shake hands with about 1,000 people either going to work in Liverpool or coming to work in Crosby.

The next stop was the Conservative headquarters, which is in a sort of superior mobile building site cabin. He spent an hour dealing with correspondence in one of the rapidly erected side offices while his wife began dispensing coffee and sympathy to jaded journalists and bright eyed and bushy tailed voluntary party workers.

At 10.15 we all left for Formby, the northernmost of the three townships in the constituency and the most assured Tory heartland. A coffee morning in the home of Mrs Eva Blunden, secretary of the Formby Conservative Women's Group, followed.

All was reasonably well, Mr Butcher assured the assembled ladies that there was to be no complacency.

Next we went to Formby's shopping centre, where Mr Butcher shook every hand in sight and conducted the second of his informal lunchtime public house press conferences. He revealed that he was unemployed a year ago after being made redundant.

After that the entourage left to do some more handshaking in some of the villages.

□ Ladbrokes' odds on the by-election make the SDP hot favourites at 4-7, with the Tories at 6-5 and Labour 50-1.

Polling day: November 26.
Candidates: Mr Butcher (C); Mr Backhouse (Lab); Mrs Williams (Lib-Soc Dem Alliance); Lieutenant-Commander (ret) William Boaks (Public Safety Democracy, Monarchists White Residents); Mr Thomas Leslie Keen (Con-Lib Alliance); Mr John Kennedy (Middlesex Polytechnic Suspended Students); Mr Richard Small (Ecology); Mr Donald Potter (Humanitarian); Mr Tarquin-Fintim-Linbin-Whin-Bimlim-Bus Ole Biscuit Barrel F'Tang (Cambridge University Raving Loony Society).
General election, May 1979: Page, Sir R G (C) 34,768; Mulhearn, A (Lab) 15,496; Hill, A (L) 9,302; Hussey, P (Ecology) 1,489.

Rubens sale may save the Seilern collection

By Frances Gibb

The purchase of a Rubens painting for the nation for £300,000 is expected to be announced today to avert the splitting up of the £50m art collection bequeathed to the Courtauld Institute by Count Antoine Seilern.

It was revealed last month, to the great dismay of the art world, that five works from the collection, by Dürer, Lotto and Kokoschka, were due to be sold at Christie's over the next month because the executors of the estate were faced with tax debts and other liabilities.

Count Antoine Seilern left his outstanding collection of Old Masters to the Courtauld Institute in 1978 on the strict condition that it should remain intact, but the executors could see no other way out of their difficulties.

It is believed, however, that the National Heritage Memorial Fund, the Victoria and Albert Musuem's purchase aid fund and London University have now agreed to find the cash necessary to buy the Rubens, "Landscape by Moonlight", thus saving the other works from auction.

The rescue plan means if effect that the Rubens, and the five works intended to be sold, will stay at the Courtauld and the collection will remain intact.

The solution to the executors' dilemma came after last-minute negotiations in Whitehall, spurred on by the personal interest of Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for the arts.

The National Heritage Fund, the Government financed organization that helps to save works and land which are part of the heritage, can spend its money only on items of national importance and could not have been used to help to buy the Kokoschkas, Dürer or Lotto. But the Rubens, which has been in England since at least the Eighteenth century, and was once owned by Sir Joshua Reynolds, meets their requirements.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bride from Spain took husband for a ride

The wedding champagne had hardly lost its fizz before Mr Louis O'Brien's marriage ended. After a telephone proposal to his Spanish sweetheart and a lightning wedding by special licence in London days later, it seemed a fairy-tale love story.

But half-way through the wedding reception the bride borrowed £500 from her new husband for "a quick shopping trip" to the West End to buy honeymoon clothes.

That was the last the club owner saw of his bride, a London Divorce Court judge was told yesterday.

The bride, aged 26, pocketed the £500 and went back to Spain. Granting a decree of nullity in an undefended suit to Mr O'Brien, aged 36, of Golden Close, St Matthews Road, Bethnal Green, London, Judge Callman wished him "better luck next time".

Warder stabbed in heart

The prison officer injured in London when three men escaped on Wednesday from a van carrying them from the Central Criminal Court to Brixton Prison was stabbed through the heart.

Det Chief Supt Jerry Plowman said yesterday that at first it was believed the officer was not badly injured. But ge gad a relapse and it was discovered that a knife blade had punctured his heart.

He was named as Mr Pendry, aged 31, a married man. He is in the intensive care unit at St Thomas' Hospital, where his condition was described yesterday as stable.

Mr Plowman said no photographs of the prisoners would be issued yet, as he did not want to jeopardize their hearing.

Mr Alvaro Damiami, aged 28, an Italian, who was stabbed when his car was hijacked by the escapers, was said to be in a satisfactory condition in hospital.

Memorial nudes upset mayor

Photographs of girls posing semi-naked on a Bournemouth war memorial have upset the mayor. Mr Gordon Anstee said it was "dragging the bottom of the barrel of bad taste" to use the memorial in pictures which appear in the current issue of a magazine published by the Paul Raymond Organization.

Harpoon protest

Members of Greenpeace, the conservationist pressure group, yesterday chained themselves to the gates of the Norwegian Embassy in London. They were protesting against what they called inhumane harpoon methods used by Norwegian whalers, and left after an inquiry was promised.

Anthrax still on island

Tests carried out two years ago by Ministry of Defence scientists have confirmed that Gruinard Island, off the west coast of Scotland and used during the war for germ warfare experiments, is still heavily contaminated with anthrax spores, according to an article in the magazine '*Nature*'.

Last month protesters, who wanted the island cleaned up dumped anthrax-contaminated soil at the Porton Down chemical warfare centre in Wiltshire

Immigration study

Immigration from the Indian subcontinent is to be the subject of the next inquiry by the House of Commons Committee on Race Relations and Immigration.

Drugs jury spend night in hotel

The jury in the cannabis smuggling trial at the Central Criminal Court were sent to a secret London hotel for the night after failing to reach verdicts yesterday. They will resume their deliberations this morning.

The eight women and four men had earlier been told by Judge Peter Mason to consider the evidence very carefully in the case against three men, Dennis Howard Marks, an Oxford graduate, Morgan Stewart Prentiss, an American, and Hedley Morgan.

Mr Marks, the prosecution alleges, was the British mastermind of an operation to smuggle into this country 15 tons of high quality Colombian cannabis with a street value of £22m.

Mr Prentiss is said to have organized the transport of the cannabis to other parts of the country, and helped with its initial landing on a lonely Scottish beach.

Mr Morgan is alleged to have counted the hundreds of thousands of pounds which came in from the sale of the cannabis and paid it into various bank accounts.

Mr Marks, said in evidence, that he worked for British intelligence against the IRA. He told the court that at the request of British intelligence he worked for a secret Mexican government department set up to track the source an organizer of drug smuggling.

Council to favour the blacks

By Lucy Hodges

Positive action in favour of black people, the setting of targets in training and housing and "race awareness" lessons for white people have been introduced in the London borough which contains Brixton.

The programme adopted by Lambeth, described in a book published yesterday by the Runnymede Trust and South London Equal Rights Consultancy, is seen as a pioneering and vigourous attack on racial discrimination in Britain.

Adopted two years ago by the new Labour administration led by Mr Ted Knight, the positive action policy is carried out by a race relations unit which until now has been headed by Mr Herman Ouseley.

Mr Ouseley, who wrote *The System* with help from two other people, is the newly appointed race relations adviser to the Greater London Council. He describes how the Lambeth unit, which had direct access to chief officers, tried to involve black people in decisions made by the council.

The effort failed. Mr Ouseley concludes that the only solution is for blacks to get into management positions or policy-making. Although a quarter of Lambeth's population is black, there are no black councillors and few senior black officials.

From yesterday's later editions

Tariq Ali applies to join the Labour Party

Mr Tariq Ali, a leading revolutionary activist of the 1960s, has resigned from the International Marxist Group and applied to join the Labour Party. He supports the Labour Party's constitution, he said, and added: "I do not make any secret that I am a Marxist. I am not renouncing my views in any way".

Different doctors

Cambridge University is examining the possibility of introducing an alternative, radically different, parallel clinical medical course, based mainly in the community rather than in teaching hospitals.

It would be the first of its kind in Britain, but similar courses exist in the United States, Israel and several developing countries, including China.

Television: Channel Four's big deal

ITN will pioneer news service

By Kenneth Gosling

Independent Television News has negotiated a £5.5m agreement with Channel Four, the new independent television service, to provide a weekday, hour-long programme of news and news analysis.

It is the biggest contract so far negotiated by the channel, which begins broadcasting next week November, and in the first instance will last four years. According to a joint statement yesterday, the programme will be the first of its kind on British television and will broaden news coverage. The programme will go on the air at 7 pm.

Mr David Nicholas, editor and chief executive of ITN, said the contribution to Channel Four was "probably the most significant extension of news programmes since News at Ten first went on the air in 1967".

The programme would enable coverage of business, industry, science, technology and the arts to be expanded and developed. ITN will take on 90 extra staff, one third of whom will be journalists.

□A limited amount of bad language in television drama may be acceptable to establish characters and plots, the Independent Broadcasting Authority says today in its annual guide.

The same rules apply to sex and violence; but the authority admits that it has difficulty in drawing the line between what is and what is not acceptable or necessary.

On future developments, the authority says a fifth of the population will not be able to watch Channel Four when it opens next year.

Twenty of the 51 main transmitters will not be ready until 1983-84 and most of the 500 or so low-power local relays (except those for the Welsh channel, which has priority) will be equipped after the start of the programmes.

Television & Radio 1982. (Published by the IBA, £2.90, or direct from distributors, ITP, 247, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0AU, £3.77).

Television: Warning on royalty

'Poll tie-break could involve the Queen

By a Staff Reporter

The Queen might be called on to help choose the government if the next general election produces three big parties in the Commons; a role that might be obscured by the way television treats the monarchy as a show business spectacular.

That is the view of Mr Alstair Burnet, senior news caster for *News at Ten* and a member of the board of Independent Television News, expressed in the monthly journal of the Independent Broadcasting Authority today.

Televisions' portrayal of the monarchy may be misleading people about the part the Queen already plays, he says.

Referring to the next election Mr Burnet says: "If that part is not widely accepted and understood beforehand, it could prejudice the monarchy's own future.

"The royal wedding may turn out to have been the last splendid act of the ceremonial, dignified monarchy that has been built up over the century. The next act could be very different."

After the next election, the Crown could be called on to help, as a sort of constitutional ACAS, in the negotiations over who forms the government. The function remained in the monarchy, even if the politicians liked to think it had been tidied away under the Bagehotian formula of "advise, encourage and warn."

It might be a short and reasonably well-mannered process, as in March 1974, but it might be complicated, lengthy and bad-tempered if any party was to divide or to try to ditch its leader.

"The palace might have to call in several contenders for the premiership and the very order in which they were consulted might even decide the issue. It would be a new and difficult dimension."

Mr Burnet asks how long the television picture of a steadying, friendly, apolitical monarchy would be believed after a bitter political crisis in which the losers maintain that they had been cheated by the system or by a palace blunder.

He says there are now the makings of a big row between younger members of the Royal Family, who feel there have been unnecessary press efforts to invade their privacy; and photographers and journalists who think that the royal advisers could be more sympathetic in arranging coverage.

Action urged against rogue car dealers

Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said yesterday that action was needed urgently against rogue dealers in second-hand cars. Despite improvements to the motor industry code of practice, complaints were still at a high level.

Screening system makes Down's detection easier

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A system of medical screening has been devised that makes it easier to detect genetic abnormalities which cause Downs' syndrome. It will also monitor damage from radiation and chemical mutagens.

The method uses equipment developed at the Wolfson Research Unit at Manchester University Medical School and the electronics company, Joyce-Loebl, which is part of the Vickers Group.

The procedure is intended for a wide range of medical, scientific and industrial investigations where tiny discrepancies have to be detected in the shape, colour or size of objects.

Those objects might be biological specimens, X-rays or similar pictures, photographs from space satellites, video films, spectra plates and industrial components. The technique is referred to generally as image analysis.

The various items are measured by feeding an image of particular objects, through a microscope of a elevision camera, into a computer processing system which includes a television screen.

The operator indicates which parts of the picture are to be scrutinized. The next step, which depends on the application, involves breaking down electronically the various parts of the picture into more than a million dots. Each dot is categorized as one of 64 grades of a shade of grey.

In monitoring for genetic damage, for instance, the 46 chromosomes that should be seen in a cell under the microscope are identified automatically in the computer image according to their size and shape.

Measurements of their length, width and other characteristics are made in the machine. Any specimen showing signs of abnormality is instantly pinpointed for the cytogeneticist to scrutinize in more detail.

Dr Christopher Taylor, of the Wolfson unit, said his group started work eight years ago to adapt that sort of image analysis, which is available on very large processing systems in a handful of university and industrial research centres, to help with routine medical diagnosis in the average hospital and clinic.

He said most hospitals are overloaded on all screening programmes. For chromosome analysis in prenatal care, alone, 10 times more examinations should be made than it is practicable to perform in the United Kingdom. A small sample of the amniotic fluid that surrounds the foetus in the mother's womb is drawn off and the chromosomes analysed.

In a more specialized application, the new equipment is used at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, to analyse images taken inside the heart.

Vulcans to be phased out a year early

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The RAF will lose its Vulcan-B2 bombers by the middle of next year, a year earlier than expected, because of money worries at the Ministry of Defence. The 48 aircraft, based at Scampton and Waddington, will start to disappear in February.

The delta-winged Vulcan came into service in the late 1950s and carried the nation's strategic deterrent until the job was taken over by the Royal Navy with the Polaris missile in 1967.

It has, however, remained one of Nato's main tactical nuclear weapon systems in Europe, and with its combat radius of about 1,750 miles is catalogued as part of the Long Range Theatre Nuclear Forces.

The Vulcan, slow and heavy by today's standards, will be replaced by the supersonic, swing-wing Tornado, which has a much shorter range. The Canberra, Buccaneer, Phantom and Lightning are other aircraft which are giving way to the Tornado.

The Tornado programme is causing much of the present concern at the Ministry of Defence, with a bill for £1,000m to meet this year. Although its proponents insist that the Tornado has kept unusually well to cost estimates, the total price of £10,000m, excluding weapons, is still the heaviest item in the defence equipment budget.



Comeback for Big Ben's brother

Perhaps the nicest royal wedding present will be unveiled next month when Little Ben (above), a chiming pedestal street-clock one tenth the size of its brother at Westminster, returns to its site near Victoria station in London after an absence of 17 years and a £25,000 restoration paid for by the French oil company, Elf Aquitaine (Tony Samstag writes).

The 30-foot-high diminutive masterpiece of Victorian iron foundry stood from 1892 to 1964 opposite the Victoria Palace Theatre, when it was dismantled.

Bomb game protest by son of IRA victim

A soldier creeps up to an unexploded bomb. It goes off in his face. Watching children giggle and clap. That is the scenario of "Bomshell", a new game in the stores for Christmas described by its manufacturers as hilarious.

The game, produced by Waddingtons, is about bungling soldiers being injured while trying to defuse bombs. It has drawn a letter of protest from Mr Stephen Howarth, son of the bomb disposal expert killed by an IRA device three weeks ago in Oxford Street, London.

Waddingtons call it "the explosively funny game" for children aged six and over. Every time the soldiers, called Major Disaster, Sergeant Jimmy Jitters, Private Tommy Twitters and Piper Willie Thumble, fail in their task, they are injured and end up bandaged from head to foot. The winner is the player left with a surviving soldier.

Brigadier Gerald Landy, of the Army Benevolent Fund, a former bomb disposal expert said yesterday: "It is an untimely and slightly tasteless way of making a profit out of a game, especially coming up to Christmas, which is supposed to be a time of peace and good will.

"Children nowadays are often given toys that involve battlefields and so on, and it is an extension of this. But I feel it could have been designed in a way that would be less hurtful to the relatives of soldiers who have died in this way."

Lieutenant-General Sir Napier Crookenden, chairman of the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Families Association, called the game disgraceful and disgusting.

"In homes all over Britain there are service widows and orphans who will face Christmas without husband or father, victims of bombs and booby traps designed to kill and maim. To jeer at and to make fun of the Army would be bad enough at any time, but this seems particularly disgusting in the present crisis."

Mr Glyn Owen-Hughes, managing director of Waddingtons, said yesterday that the company gravely regretted any distress caused to Mr Howorth and his family.

"The game in question was not intended to denigrate in any way the outstanding bravery of those men who risk their lives to ensure the safety of us all.

"The game is based on the popular jack in the box principle and the theme reflects the highly successful TV series, *Dad's Army*. Within the context of the vast number of war toys which are sold the game has not been seen as offensive."

Waddingtons would not be withdrawing the game. The letter from Mr Howorth had not asked to it to be withdrawn.

Harrods said yesterday that it had decided to withdraw the game from sale. Selfridges, in Oxford Street, said it was seeking managerial direction and Hamleys, in Regent Street, Britains's biggest toy store, said the game was not stocked because the company did not approve of it.

Jury must decide on final dose

The judge summing up in the trial of Paul Vickers and Pamela Collison at Teeside Crown Court referred yesterday to the "very important matter" of who had presented a final prescription for the anti-cancer drug CCNU.

Mr Vickers, aged 47, a Newcastle surgeon, and Miss Collison, his former mistress, of Barnet, Hertfordshire, are accused of murdering Mrs Margaret Vickers, the defendent's wife, with the drug in June, 1979.

Mr Justice Boreham directed the jury's attention to the final prescription, made out by Mr Vickers for the drug and dated May 3, 1979.

"Who had that prescription dispensed?" the judge asked the jury of seven men and five women. "It is urged on behalf of Miss Collison that she never dispensed any in 1979."

The judge added that it was said and not denied that on May 4 Mr Vickers was in London at John Bell and Croydon, the chemists, where the prescriptions were dispensed, buying medical equipment.

"It is a very important question because if he did have that one dispensed, and only that one, then where stands his defence?" the judge asked. "His assertion is that it was this blackmailing, or pressuring, woman who was getting the prescriptions and getting them dispensed." Mr Justice Boreham told the jury there were three questions they had to answer concerning Mr Vickers.

First, did he cause his wife to take CCNU? and secondly, did he intend that that CCNU should kill her?

"If the answer to that second question is 'no' or 'we are not sure', then he is not guilty of murder or attempted murder. The essence of both is in the intention to kill. But if the answer to that second question is a sure 'yes', then you go on to the third question. Was the CCNU which he caused her to take, the cause of her death?"

The trial was adjourned until today, when the judge will complete his summing up and the jury will retire to consider, their verdicts.

RUBBISH TIP STAYS ON WELSH FEN

By Tony Samstag

An unprecedented lawsuit against the Nature Conservancy Council over the status of the largest lowland fen in Wales has ended in stalemate and incongruity, with a large area of the wetland simultaneously declared a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) and designated a municipal rubbish dump.

Friends of the Earth, the environmental group, among others, brought a writ against the council earlier this year alleging failure to implement its own proposal to extend SSSI status to the so-called "grey area", which covers about 5 per cent of Crymlyn Bog, the 800-acre fen in Swansea.

The NCC subsequently agreed to SSSI status for the area, which does not guarantee inviolability, but under a joint strategy agreed recently with Swansea City Council tipping is to continue there and ultimately on another 25 acres.

Most of the surrounding fen, meanwhile, is to be further protected as a national nature reserve, set apart from the dump by a protective embankment of fuel ash.

News in summary

Doctors to prescribe no smoking

Patients are going to be "prescribed" advice to give up smoking by means of a new kit designed to produce 500,000 non-smokers a year (Our Health Services Correspondent writes).

Britain's 25,000 family doctors are being given anti-smoking leaflets with a prescription form on the front to give to their patients who smoke. The form will be filled in by the doctor, who will check the patient two to four weeks later.

Research at the Maudsley Hospital, London, has shown that when a doctor advises a patient to give up, provides information about doing so and follows up the advice later, an annual success rate of 5 per cent can be achieved.

Britain has 17 million adult smokers, probably about two thirds of whom visit their doctor each year. If 5 per cent of those stopped smoking, more than 500,000 would give up every year.

The kits have been produced by Action on Smoking and Health and the Health Education Council

Youths 'choosey about jobs'

Mr Geoffrey Hull, a night club, café and property owner, has criticized jobless youngsters who are "choosey" (Our York Corespondent writes). He says he cannot find school-leavers who want the chance to get work experience.

He claims that it took mouths before one young girl accepted his offer of catering and office work rather than staying on the dole.

He thought she would be grateful but she left after a month to rejoin hundreds of jobless school-leavers in the area.

Mr Hull, aged 50, said: "It seems to be the youth opportunities people who block our offers. They told me that there were no suitable kids for the job."

There are 175 unfilled work experience sponsorships in the York area, from a total of 680 offers.

Mr Anthony Greenaway, in the York area careers office, said: "The work experience schemes are becoming more tied to training. It does seem crazy that there are so many offers of sponsorship like Mr Hull's which are not taken up."

Ripper's friend is fined

Trevor Birdsall, former lorry driver and friend of Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, was fined £90 by Bradford magistrates yesterday for claiming social security benefit while being paid by a Sunday newspaper (our Bradford Correspondent writes). Mr Birdsall, aged 33, of Ribbleton Grove, Bradford, admitted three offences of making false representations to obtain supplementary benefit and asked for five others to be taken into consideration. In addition to the fines, he was ordered to repay £100 and to pay £25 costs. The court heard that he claimed supplementary benefit on the ground of being destitute and unemployed and did not disclose he was living in hotels at the expense of the *Sunday People* and was being paid £80 a week.

School sites register plan

A new registration system to regulate what happens to some local schools when they close down is proposed by a Law Commission working party in a report published yesterday (Our Legal Correspondent writes).

The report deals mainly with those voluntary schools which were created to "educate the poor" in Victorian times. Difficulties have arisen because many such schools were built on sites given or sold cheaply on the express understanding that they would be used only as schools.

Under the School Sites Act, 1841, a site no longer used for educational purposes would revert to the estate from which it came originally. The report proposes a register of claims to ownership.

The Law Commission. Property Law. Rights of Reverter. (Stationery Office, £4).

Voice from the grave proposes to barmaid

Beryl Wilson, aged 37, a barmaid is to marry a man she has never met, who proposed to her from a coffin. Mr William White, her intended husband, is buried alive in a grave at Fort Worth, Texas, trying to break the world endurance record for living six feet underground.

Their romance started after Mr Mike Read, a BBC disc jockey, interviewed Mr White, aged 47, and gave the telephone number of his coffin to Radio 1 listeners. Beryl Wilson, who works in a wine bar in Leeds, telephoned him and later received a proposal.

Mr White, who was buried on July 31, will have to stay under ground until December 19 to break the record.

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"I was suffering from the first signs of madness."

Richard Temple on why talking to yourself is bad business.

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In a regular Financial Bulletin to our clients, we review current investment opportunities in areas ranging from Government Securities to Gold, and the latest developments and products. Once again, accurate, in-depth information from companies like Albany is essential to our research.

But, however large we grow, I will always insist that every client has ready access to me or a senior colleague who will listen and advise.

That means that my clients don't end up talking to themselves. And neither do I.

Albany Life

Richard Temple is Senior Partner of R. J. Temple and Company, 43 Radnor Walk, London SW3 4BP. Offices nationwide.

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PARLIAMENT November 19 1981

Industry recovering its competitiveness

TREASURY

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, reaffirmed during question time in the Commons the importance of containing public sector costs and public sector pay in particular.

He confirmed that the public sector borrowing requirement in the current year remained on the course forecast in his last Budget.

During the exchanges, Mr Joel Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab), who was Chief Secretary to the Treasury in the last Labour Government, inquired if the Chancellor intended to borrow less next year.

Sir Geoffrey Howe replied that the size of the PSBR next year would be disclosed "at the right time and not today".

The Chancellor also indicated that evidence he had sighted did confirm his earlier judgment that the worst of the recession was probably behind them.

In the United Kingdom output was moving in the right direction, whereas among many of their European partners it was still moving in the wrong direction.

This is happening (he said) not because of anything we are doing to demand in any broad sense but because industry is recovering its competitiveness and winning markets around the world.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, asked about the progress being made towards achieving this year's target in the medium term financial strategy, said the medium-term financial strategy set out their broad fiscal monetary strategy. It remained their policy to maintain downward pressure on the growth of monetary aggregates.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C): In view of the massive transfer of resources that has already taken place from the private sector to the public sector in the continuing attempt to exert downward pressure, would he give an assurance that his further attempts to meet his targets will not result in any further transfer of resources and further burden being placed on the private sector?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I understand his concern. It remains important to curtail the growth of the public sector to ensure it is not placing too heavy a burden on the private sector.

That is why it is so important to contain all public sector costs and why in particular public sector pay is so important.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab): Is the unemployment figure on target?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The objective on unemployment is to reverse the rising trend as quickly as possible.

The rate of increase is now one half of what it was 12 months ago. (Labour laughter.)

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, Lab): Would he confirm that it would be the height of financial irresponsibility for the Government to spend more in real terms next year?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is the objective to reduce the percentage of national resources taken by the public sector.

Mr Peter Shore (chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab): The targets normally referred to within the medium-term financial strategy are the money supply figures and the PSBR.

As he knows we do not attach a great deal of importance to these particular hair shirts he has so willingly clad himself with. The central piece of his budget was to keep interest rates at 12 per cent. Interest rates are 15 per cent. What has he to say and what does he intend to do about that?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Interest rates remained significantly below international levels from the time of my budget in the spring until the end of the summer, specifically because of the nature of the budget which was introduced in the teeth of opposition from Mr Shore.

Manufacturing output rose in the third quarter of this year, and the worst of the recession was probably over, Sir Geoffrey Howe said during other questions.

Mr Robert Litherland (Manchester, Central, Lab) asked the Chancellor to what extent his policies were assisting the recovery of manufacturing industry.

Sir Geoffrey Howe replied: Figures now available for the third quarter of the current year show that manufacturing output rose by 1½ per cent, output in chemicals and allied industries by 6 per cent, and output in engineering and allied industries by 2 per cent, compared with the second quarter. This evidence confirms my earlier judgment that the worst of the recession is probably behind us.

The movement is now in the right direction. The way in which we can encourage and accelerate that movement is to go on achieving and encouraging restraint in pay settlements, and ensuring local authorities do not set an opposite trend by imposing rates too high for manufacturing industry.

Mr Jack Straw, for the Opposition, (Blackburn, Lab): Industrial output is still 13½ per cent below the level which this Government inherited at the election, and even output per employee is well below the figure in 1979. When does the Chancellor expect that unemployment will start to fall, and does he still share the opinion that the recession is now at an end?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The evidence that I have sighted, which Mr Straw chooses to disregard, does confirm my earlier judgment that the worst of the recession is probably behind us. I would be grateful for his modest welcome of the fact that output is now moving upwards instead of downwards.

Mr Esmond Bulmer (Kidderminster, C): Will the Government continue to hold down public expenditure?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is the objective of Government policy to maintain effective control of public expenditure to improve the prospects of the private sector.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Governments can create demand, and in this situation that is what is needed, including the public sector.

Now we have four million people out of work, it is time the Chancellor of the Exchequer turned his attention to creating more jobs, creating more demand, and persuading people to spend more money.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Of course it is possible for Governments to create demand, but the experience which teaches us the right lesson is this: for each pound of extra demand created in the last 10 years, only five pence went on extra output; the remaining 95 pence financed higher imports and higher inflation.

The only way to create demand is for manufacturers, employers and work people working together to ensure expansion of output.

☐ While understanding the desire to see a reduction in prices and inflation, it would be unwise to impose rigid restrictions to try to achieve that, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during other questions.

Mr David Atkinson (Bournemouth, East, C) had asked if the Chancellor would be discussing with the leaders of the CBI their appreciation of the economy.

Does he recall (he added) that the CBI's voluntary initiative 10 years ago whereby some of the largest firms agreed to keep down prices by 5 per cent or less, which resulted in a halving of inflation during the following twelve months.

Will he seek a similar initiative from the CBI and the nationalized industries in view of the fact that he has imposed a 5 per cent guideline in public sector pay?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The last point is incorrect because the limit of growth in the public service sector is 4 per cent, not 5 per cent. I understand the concern about the need to secure the benefits of a reduction in prices and inflation, but it is not wise to seek to impose a rigid undertaking of that kind. Profitability has fallen sharply in the years since that was last attempted.



Atkinson: Keep prices down



Woolmer: Why reject advice?

It is important in the public as well as in the private sector for every effort to be made to reduce labour unit costs. We are making progress in that.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Batley and Morley, Lab): Why does he reject the advice of Sir Ian Gilmour to reduce unemployment by half a million instead of increasing it. When and why will unemployment fall?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Progress in the right direction over unemployment depends not only on continued sense about pay bargaining and the reduction of costs but on a willingness to encourage private investment. The tax changes we have been making and have made are aimed at improving the prospects for further investment in British industry.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexley, Bexleyheath, C): Is there not a clear, common sense case for supporting Government funds — carefully costed capital projects in labour intensive industry? (Labour cheers).

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The Government is prepared to make funds available within the limits of total money available for investment rather than current consumption. It is because so much has been taken in current consumption that so little is available for investment. We have had to reverse the trend.

If there is continued success in reducing current costs, there is scope for going further in investment.

☐ Interest rates had come down but further progress would continue to be affected by internal and external factors, Sir Geoffrey Howe also said.

The level of interest rates (he went on) depends on any particular day on the size of demand for money and the amount available and the Bank of England is only one of the factors.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington, Lab): Business people regard high interest rates as crippling to business, causing a high level of bankruptcies and the Government's adherence to that is preventing economic recovery.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: High demand for borrowing pushes interest rates up.

This country is close to unique in being so preoccupied with the proposition that we can bring down interest rates by spending and borrowing more. He should seek counsel and advice in North America, which is that the way to bring down the rates is to reduce demand for Government borrowing in the market place.

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C): Interest rates does not rest entirely with the Government.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is affected by the size of borrowing by other governments round the world and by industry.

Mr Robert Sheldon, an Opposition spokesman (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab): Is he aware of the complexity of money markets? Despite the fall of interest rates in the United States and Europe, the Bank of England intervenes to keep interest rates up and consequently the exchange rate is higher than it would otherwise be, to the disadvantage of exporters, who have been ignored too long by this Government.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The level of interest rates depends not just on external factors, but on the level of money supply, the rate of growth of the monetary supply and bank lending. All these factors are taken into account. If these factors were set aside to expand Government borrowing, the consequences would be exactly the opposite of what industry desires.

Returnable bottle Bill rejected

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Beverage Containers Bill which would have required all cider, beer and soft drink bottles to carry a deposit was rejected in the House of Lords by 69 votes to 30.

Lord Beaumont of Whitley (L), its sponsor, in moving the second reading, said the mandatory returnable bottle was by far the most economical container.

It was, he said, one of a number of measures which would increasingly become necessary if this country was to have the kind of conservation it needed and move towards a sustainable society.

The Bill covered beer, cider and carbonated soft drinks as bottled and contained in glass, metal or plastic containers, and provided that every container should have a refund value and be marked to that effect. There was provision for a year's grace before the measure came into force.

He said the Bill would considerably diminish the amount of dangerous litter in the towns and countryside; shift part of the burden of dealing with the litter from the public and public authorities to those who caused it—those who made, sold and bought the products; and slow down the consumption of scarce resources.

The Bill would not contradict but would be in harmony with a draft EEC directive on liquid containers.

He agreed that the Bill would cause some unemployment in manufacturing but at least as many jobs would be created in distribution. If American experience was anything to go by there would be a net gain in employment.

The argument of supermarkets against the Bill that it would affect consumer choice was cant and humbug. What they were talking about was not consumers' choice but costs and profits.

Lady Birk, for the Opposition, said there would be a free vote among Labour peers if the Bill went to a division.

We are (she said) an over-packaged, over-littered and over-careless society.

There needed to be a change in the practice over a period of time. Whatever happened to this Bill, with all its imperfections, it had attracted so much interest that it should be seen as a trigger to get action which was urgently needed.

The Duke of Portland said the objective of the Bill would be better attained by serious enforcement of anti-litter measures. If anti-litter notices were accompanied by details of the fines imposed for contravention, this might be an effective deterrent. These fines should take account of the depreciation of the currency and the cost of enforcement.

The Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham (L), in a maiden speech, said similar legislation had been passed 10 years ago in Oregon. The public had responded and support grew rapidly. Profits of all industries directly affected by the Bottle Bill were up collectively. Far from an increase in unemployment, the effect of the Bill showed an increase of 365 jobs.

The Bottle Bill had worked in Oregon because it was economic and practical for the beer and soft drink industries and convenient to the consumer.

Lord Sainsbury (SDP) said his firm would be considerably and adversely affected. The Bill was partial and restrictive. It discriminated against a narrow product range. It would limit consumer choice and hamper the development of even more economic and energy-efficient packaging materials. It would cause an enormous upheaval in the current distribution system and run counter to the progress made in the distribution methods and marketing of beverages in recent years.

Neither the supermarkets nor off licences could recieve back as many containers as they sold. The consequences of having to do so would mean reducing the range of products available to the consumer.

Experience of recycling was increasing and the techniques for the separation of waste were improving to allow recovery of an ever greater proportion of waste. That was the way forward, not just for the beverage but for industry in general. He opposed the Bill.

Lord Strabolgi (Lab) said the advocates of the Bill presupposed a fundamental change in consumer habits and that that returnable bottles would gain 80 per cent of the market almost overnight. In those American states which ran a mandatory deposit system it had been found that prices increased from 10 to 20 per cent and 38 per cent if the deposit was included.

He would vote against this unwarranted and draconian legislation.

Lord Craigton (C) said the Bill should not single out one part of packaging: a far wider range should be dealt with.

If 26 trade assocations could combine to fight the Bill could they not combine to fight to reduce pollution? The industry should consider if it had a far greater obligation than it believed it had at present.

Lord Cooper of Stockton Heath (Lab) said the General and Municipal Workers Union was utterly opposed to the Bill, believing it to be misguided, impractical and highly damaging to the job security of its members.

The beverage container industry had been seriously hit by the recession. In the last two years the jobs of 4,000 skilled men had gone out of the industry and a further 1,000 were threatend. The fears expressed about the Bill were well founded and he hoped it would be rejected.

Lord Somers (Ind) said the Bill would help to reduce litter which was one of the greatest evils in the country.

We are (he said) a downright filthy and disgusting nation. The revolting amount of litter one sees in public places now is becoming almost unbearable chiefly, possibly, since children have ceased to be taught that tidiness is a virtue. That is unfashionable nowadays.

He was glad Coca Cola was covered by the Bill as it produced more litter, particularly on railways stations, than anything else.

Lord Jacques (Lab) said the Bill would cause chaos in the retail trade. It was a theoretical Bill prepared by people who had no experience of handling beverages and empties.

Lord Vernon said the Bill might marginally increase the cost, but it would be worth paying for to improve the litter situation and change people's attitude to waste.

The Earl of Onslow (C) said the Bill, which would make the countryside, parks and streets cleaner and safer places. It should provide consumers with cheaper drinks and raise from the shoulders of local authorities the task of cleaning up the mess.

Lady Phillips (Lab) said community and voluntary methods of dealing with waste should be encouraged. The Bill did not have the answer.

Lord Irving of Dartford (Lab) said improving existing returnable systems and recycling of non-returnable systems was a more effective way of reducing waste without creating more bureaucracy, unemployment and higher prices.

The Earl of Avon (Lord in Waiting) for the Government, said there was much reason to doubt whether the introduction of mandatory deposits would work out in practice as the Bill intended.

The packaging and containers working party of the Waste Management Advisory Council, which reported in April 1981, concluded that they could not recommend a system of mandatory deposits on all beverage containers, nor indeed other forms of intervention in the market which they had considered.

The Bill provided that the Government should intervene substantially in the packaged beverage market, singling this business out from others. The Government's general approach was to cut back on interference with industry, and the case

It did not believe that such a case had been made on environmental grounds. The environmental savings that might be forthcoming should be more appropriately pursued through establishing an effective re-cycling system rather than by relying on restriction.

The Government believed there was substantial doubt about the way the Bill would work out in practice and about the benefits which might be expected from it. On the other hand, it was certain that a number of industries, from manufacturing to retailing, would need to make considerable and costly adjustments which would be against their advice and commercial judgment.

Food and drink retailers were opposed to the idea of all beverage containers bearing a deposit and being returnable.

They feared the small shopkeeper in particular would not be able to cope. There was a possibility initially of a loss of jobs and that consumers would suffer reduced choice.

Reagan's initiative welcomed

DISARMAMENT

President Reagan's initiative in calling for a reduction of nuclear arms in Europe was welcomed by Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, as well as receiving a further endorsement from the Prime Minister.

During questions to the Prime Minister, Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West, C) asked Mrs Thatcher to welcome President Reagan's proposal for reduced deployment of nuclear weapons if it was matched by one from the Russians.

He added: Will she find time to meet any delegation from the Russian CND for them to explain any successes they have had in getting their Government to reduce their nuclear stockpile?

Mrs Thatcher: I cannot meet anyone when there is no one there to meet. They would not be free if they held those views because that is a different kind of society.

I welcome the great initiative by President Reagan in proposing that there should be not merely a limitation of nuclear arms, but a reduction of nuclear arms and of conventional forces. He has seized the initiative and I hope we shall find a response from the Soviet Union.

We wish to have a balance of arms at a very much lower level. I hope President Reagan's initiative will go ahead to negotiations which I do not conceal from the House will be long and difficult, but very worth while, and believed in by most people in this House.

Mr Foot: Since we have been arguing and campaigning for the zero option, as it is called, for many months—(Conservative protests and Opposition cheers)—and indeed we adopted it right back at the time of discussions in December, 1979, we certainly hope that there can be negotiations on that basis and that negotiations may be successful.

Not only is that statement greatly to be welcomed but is much better and offers much better hope than statements about so-called limited nuclear war. Indeed, if successful negotiations could be done properly on the so-called zero-option, the idea of limited nuclear war, such as was professed previously by the American administration and supported by some others could be outlawed altogether.

Mrs Thatcher: I hoped Mr Foot would welcome President Reagan's speech in an unqualified way.

Some Labour MPs: He did.

Mrs Thatcher: I am delighted that Mr Foot is converted now to multilateral disarmament.

Mr Foot: We have got a good deal better right to welcome it than she has, since we have been arguing for it in Moscow, Washington, Europe and everywhere else. The last person, apparently, to support the zero option has been her.

We wish to make negotiations as successful as possible and that is why she should recognize the implications of the zero option. That means that the ideas of limited response and limited nuclear war would have to be outlawed as well.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Foot has been arguing for surrender of our security. We support multilateral disarmament and are anxious to see it. We unreservedly welcome President Reagan's speech and hope that it finds a ready response in the Soviet Union. There is no point in going further because we have seen no response yet.

Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C): There is satisfaction at the sudden conversion of Mr Foot to multilateral disarmament. It is disappointing when for the first time Russia, which has been campaigning for disarmament over so many months, is given a solid proposition, her immediate reaction is to throw it out the window saying it is propaganda.

Mrs Thatcher: Most of us unreservedly welcome the initiative and still hope for a Russian response. If that does not come, then it is serious for the amount of money we all have to spend in future on armaments.

I sincerely hope a response will be forthcoming and we shall enter into negotiations with the United States and Soviet Union which will be fruitful for all our peoples.

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C): If the Russian government turned down President Reagan's initiative, any action towards unilateral nuclear disarmament would have no effect on Moscow whatever and would leave us naked at the conference table.

Mrs Thatcher: I entirely agree. We must have multilateral disarmament if we are to retain our security. Unilateral disarmament would put the whole future of liberty of these islands at risk, and we would not wish to be involved in it.

Overcrowding in prisons is intolerable—PM

Present levels of prison overcrowding were intolerable, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, agreed at question time after a Labour MP had referred to "a courageous letter" in *The Times* from Mr John McCarthy, the Governor of HM Prison, Wormwood Scrubs.

Mr Clive Soley (Hammersmith North, Lab) had asked: Has the Prime Minister seen the courageous letter in *The Times* today from the Governor?

She should try to persuade her party to allow Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to take a more radical and humane approach to the growing crisis in our prisons which is threatening the welfare of prison officers and prisoners alike.

Mrs Thatcher: I have seen that letter. Mr Whitelaw has repeatedly stressed that the present levels of overcrowding in our prisons are intolerable.

He has taken certain steps to try to reduce it, and Government policy is to encourage shorter sentences consistent with the protection of the public from serious offenders.

The Government have put up police numbers and pay to see a reduction in crime.

Leyland truck factories to stay

SCOTLAND

While action by British Leyland to bring capacity in their truck business into line with prospective demand would involve some reduction in the work force there was no proposal to close either the Bathgate or Albion factories, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said during a debate on the Scottish economy.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs, (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab) moved: That this House condemns the economic, industrial and public expenditure policies of HM Government which have led to record levels of unemployment in Scotland, a disastrous rundown of industry, poorer public services and increased burdens on the Scottish people".

He said the debate was being held against a record level of Scottish unemployment. The prospects for the coming winter were grim indeed, particularly for the school leavers at Christmas.

Labour MPs were apprehensive about the expected announcement tomorrow (Friday) about BL bus and truck division. There had already been a considerable rundown at Albion and Bathgate since the Government came to power. If any redundancies were announced, they would be intolerable and unacceptable to the Opposition.

One of the problems facing BL bus and truck division was lack of demand because of the general crisis in the economy brought about by Government policy, and also lack of investment in the past. The Opposition wanted action on the increasing amount of imports from Japan and other countries which was eating away at manufacturing capacity in Britain, and causing difficulty for BL.

Unless the Government took action on imported trucks, and on light commercial vans, Britain would see this side of its vehicle industry going the way of the car side.

The Labour Party did not wish either of the bids for the Royal Bank of Scotland to go ahead. The Royal Bank should remain independent, and the Opposition would oppose the bids of both the Standard Charter and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Overwhelming financial opinion in Scotland wanted the bank to remain independent, and its takeover could do great damage to Edinburgh as a financial centre.

Mr Younger moved a Government amendment: "That this House, while deeply concerned about the high level of unemployment in Scotland, commends the Government's determination to encourage the development of a new industrial base for economic recovery and the generation of new and secure jobs".

He said that throughout periods of world recession recently Scotland had always fared worse than elsewhere because of falling competitiveness and low growth. The priority given to tackling inflation was so necessary in Scotland's interests.

There are (he said) encouraging signs that our polices are beginning to succeed.

The Opposition had often criticized the Government for failing to invest in the public sector and cutting capital projects and practically everything in sight. Yet, not far from Edinburgh, on Torness, contracts worth over £500m had already been placed or offered.



Younger: Urgent talks on Linwood plant

The total value of the project was over £1,000m. It employed directly 2,200 people on site and many hundreds more in associated industries.

In the private sector too there had been difficult decisions to take, but this had not resulted in the industrial desert of the catch phrase. During September and October alone Scottish-based companies announced export orders worth over £200m. The notable example was John Brown Engineering at Clydebank, with orders from Abu Dhabi, New Guinea and Russia.

What was beginning to be seen in Scotland was not an industrial desert but old-fashioned industrial skill and determination. It was still there and still able to surmount the difficulties.

His department had been in contact with Talbot's agents in connexion with comments reported in the press about prospects for finding a buyer for part of the Linwood plant.

They have assured me (he continued) that urgent and genuine negotiations are taking place on the sale of the premises. It is therefore imperative that nothing is done which would be counter-productive to the disposal of these premises or redundant plant and equipment.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot Nat) said Scotland's ills would never be put right by part-time government. What was needed was a parliament committing the majority of its time to the economic and social ills of the country as a priority. They would only get that by supporting the independence option.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, L) said the Government did not appear to have any definable industrial strategy. Privatization was the nearest to it, but that was no substitute.

Urgent discussions were needed between employers, trade unions and Government to produce new training programmes to come into force by autumn next year.

Mr Alexander Pollock (Moray and Nairn, C) said the Government should look again at the possibility of introducing a dual interest rate scheme similar to those which existed in four EEC countries.

Mr Robert MacLennan (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP) said the Government had stood by when industries, often strategic industries, had gone to the wall. The Secretary of State seemed to think industries were not viable when he could not find the money to support them, and that they were viable when he could. He had no kind of yardstick to apply as a test of survivability.

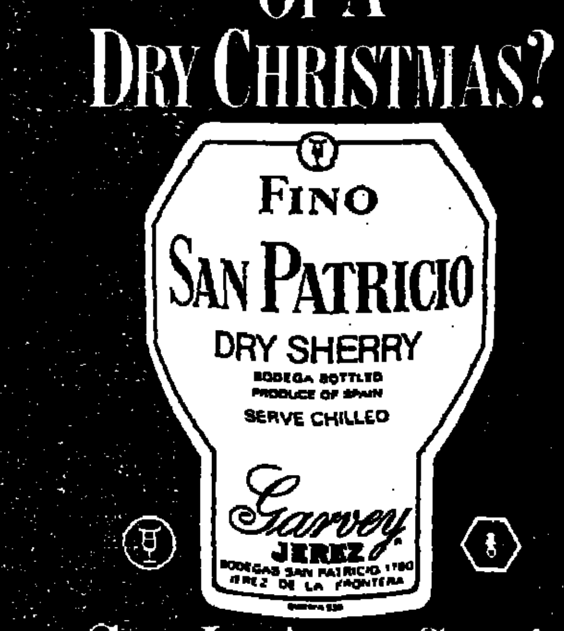
Mr Harry Ewing, an Opposition spokesman (Stirling, Falkirk and Grangemouth, Lab), said it was a bit much when they were going to have a profound announcement on British Leyland for Mr Younger to give the clear impression that he had not had direct consultation with the company.

Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, said much had been done to alleviate unemployment and to prepare for the expected upturn in the world economy. The House had not heard a single constructive proposal from the Labour benches as to how they would reduce unemployment to which Labour contributed so decisively when in office.

The road to economic recovery demanded that Scotland should not become obsessed with recession because it was defeatist and there was too much evidence of success

The obsession with recession would destroy the constructive and innovative thinking that was essential for Scotland's industrial recovery.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 277 votes to 207—Government majority, 70, and the Government amendment carried by 268 votes to 203—Government majority, 65.



German minister outlines plan for closer ties in EEC

STRASBOURG

Leaders of the main political groups in the European Parliament meeting in Strasbourg warmly welcomed the German-Italian initiative aimed at European political union. The initiative, based on a proposed European Act was outlined to parliament by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, and Signor Emilio Colombo, the Italian Foreign Minister and a former President of the European Parliament.

They set out proposals for improving cooperation and joint action covering political and security cooperation, as well as economic matters. Mr Frans Andriessen, EEC Commissioner, welcomed the initiative as a sign that there was some stirring of political courage among the ministers of the member states.

The proposals will be considered by the heads of EEC states at the summit in London next week after which Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, will report to the European Parliament at its December session. It is probable that the European Parliament will debate specific proposals arising from the London decisions in January.

Herr Genscher said that the economic constraints were greater than ever. As a result of serious confrontation on food prices and surpluses, on fisheries net balances and national subsidies, the European Community was in danger of losing the commitment and support of the people living in it. It was high time for political reflection.

The discussions had to centre on the great goal of European political union, and that was the purpose of the German-Italian initiative for a European union.

The initiative was designed to make clear to everyone the comprehensive political goal of European unification. Once achieved, European union would be unique because the traditional concepts of a federal state or of a confederation would not describe it.

It was intended that member states should commit themselves under the European act in a high-ranking political declaration.

The act contained proposals for expanding European political cooperation, and called for the decision-making structures of the Community and European political cooperation to be merged under the responsibility of the European Council.

The original institutions had never been intended to be just economic communities but steps along the road towards a united Europe. The widespread hope that economic constraints would automatically bring about political unification had proved to be an illusion. A united Europe would not be created by technocratic means but by action by ministers and politicians.

Foreign policy under European political cooperation and foreign trade policy had to be integrated into a coherent and comprehensive European policy. The objective was to promote cooperation and dialogue between Parliament, the Community and the European Council.

In particular we plead with the Council of Ministers (he continued) to revert to the practice of taking decisions by majority votes, as envisaged in the treaties, the invocation of vital interests being used only in exceptional circumstances.

Aspects of security policy should be included in the cooperation on foreign policy. The voice of Europe had to be heard more distinctly.

Advances of foreign policy of EEC states into areas of security policy had to be linked to close and trusting cooperation with North America. Yesterday's speech by President Reagan was an impressive commitment to the common values and security of the Atlantic Alliance. The Soviet Union should take those proposals seriously and reply positively.

We propose (he said) that the member states subject the European act to a general review five years after its signing and on that occasion set themselves the goal of a treaty on European union.



Genscher: United Europe would be unique

The European Council should decide in London next week on the future procedure for the treatment of the draft European act. Only united in an effective European union would the democracies be able to face the great challenges of the world, and, conversely, the world needed an effective European union.

Signor Colombo said they must find a way of strengthening Europe's political will. Precisely because the problems being faced today are not simply internal Community problems but required a united response to external events, now was the time to speed up the pace of European integration.

The aim was to revive European integration, strengthen the institutions, improve decision-making, foster and extend political cooperation between the Ten and extend cooperation over security, culture and law. There had to be a coherent approach.

M Ernest Glinne (Belgium, Soc), for the Socialist Group, said his group supported the revival of political cooperation, but it was still necessary to discuss the ways of achieving it and of ensuring that it did not become an alibi for lack of aims.

Mr Leo Tindemans (Belgium, Epp), for the European People's Party Group, said that this package of proposals offered a sign of hope. It was obvious that European union had to include economic and monetary union, and a common external policy. The proposals by the two ministers provided a good beginning.

Sir James Scott-Hopkins (Hereford and Worcester, Ed), leader of the European Democrat Group, said that he warmly welcomed the initiative. It was essential for the Community to move forward. There had to be a balance between three fronts—economic, fiscal and political cooperation.

We live in a dangerous world (he said), and we have to take the maximum precautions to guard against the future for ourselves and for our children. It is only by dealing with these matters in this Parliament and in the Council that we can take the right decisions and make our citizens aware of the dangers.

Signor Altieri Spinelli (Italy, Comm) said that the Communist Group was grateful for the initiative which tackled the taboo that no one should try to look beyond the Community's economic tasks. European union would strengthen economic policies, promote a common foreign policy and common security, which could reinforce peace.

Herr Martin Bangemann (Germany, LD) said the Liberal and Democratic Group welcomed the initiative without reservation.

Whoever degrades the European Community to an insurance jackpot and wants to figure out what he has received and what he has paid in is anti-European and against the development of this community (he said).

Mr Christian de la Malene (France, DEP) said that Europe needed to find its feet again. His group would have preferred national parliaments to act now so that people would be participating in the relaunching of European union.

M Felix Damette (France, Comm) said that the initiative seemed to entertain the idea of a system which would oblige member states which wished to carry out social changes to protect capitalism and the multinationals.

Mr Frans Andriessen, an EEC Commissioner, said that the initiative was a sign that there was still some stirring of political courage in the Council which was greatly needed. It could only, he hoped that the spark would strike into life and become a flame.

There has (he said) been talk of political amnesia. We need a new political impulse.

The Commission was pleased to see that an opportunity had been grasped and that it was understood that a breakthrough was needed. There had been enough intentions of good will. Now there had to be agreement on policies.

It was important that the initiative had been based on the political aim of European political cooperation. The German-Italian initiative was based on the treaty. It was not based on a simple expansion of decision-making mechanisms. This act was the first step in constructing European union.

Next week in Westminster

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, second reading.

Tuesday Transport (Finance) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions). Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Debates on law and order and on damaging effects of high interest rates on On Liberal Party motions.

Friday: Private member's motion on information technology.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Tuesday: Civic Government (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debates on relationship between European Nato countries and the United States and on steps to encourage employers to expand their workforces.

Thursday: Boxing Bill, second reading. Debate on cuts in BBC's external services.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on report of Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

Genscher unveils plan for political union of Europe

Strasbourg, Nov 19.— Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, told the European Parliament here today that the EEC must turn its attention from solely economic aspects to the overriding objective of the political unification of Europe.

Launching the joint West German and Italian plan for European union Herr Genscher said that the EEC was "in danger of losing the commitment, in fact the support, of the people living in it."

The initiative for a European union "cannot replace the efforts to resolve the existing economic problems", he said, "but it must accompany them, bolster them and give them a dimension of political finality".

He outlined a four-part plan aimed at strengthening the political dimension of the EEC by integrating security matters into the Community's present foreign policy machinery, including cultural affairs as regular matter of business, cooperating on matters of justice and working more closely to combat "trans-national criminality and terrorism".

Herr Genscher devoted the bulk of his speech to a discussion of ways in which security policy should be worked into the Community's foreign policy machinery. The inclusion of the political and economic aspect of European security was indispensable to the emerging EEC foreign policy, he said.

Herr Genscher said: "For us, Europe does not end at the frontiers of the Community nor at the frontiers of the (21) states of the Council of Europe. Europe is the fate of all European nations. We must see this Europe over and above ideological frontiers as the great task of peace".

Such widening of EEC foreign policy to include security must be linked to "close and trusting cooperation with the democracies of North America".

He said that the Italian and West German Governments hoped thatthe EEC summit in London next week would "decide on the future procedure for the treatment" of the initiative. He hoped that the EEC's member states would commit themselves to the goal of European unification in "a high-ranking political declaration". — AP.

Defferre sues magazine for libel

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 19

M Gaston Defferre, the quick-tempered Minister of the Interior, has decided to sue the weekly magazine *Paris-Match* for libel.

He accuses it of suggesting in one of the questions of an opinion poll on relations between Frenchmen and the police, that he had given instructions to the force to be more lenient with minor offenders and the inhabitants of urban trouble spots of those polled, 59 per cent disapproved of the alleged instructions.

The poll shows a growing public concern over inadequate security and police protection. And M Defferre's decision is another symptom of deteriorating relations between the Socialist Government and the press, widely suspected, with one or two outstanding exceptions, of being generally ill-intentioned, and of giving a negative interpretation of the government's aims and policies.

The discontent among the police is undeniable. Newspaper reports concur in tracing it back partly to what members of the force consider to be the excessively generous amnesty of early last summer, which reduced the prison population by a quarter. They also blame the Minister's criticism of the allegedly "fascist" and "racist" behaviour of the police under the previous Giscardian regime.



A fit-looking M Mitterrand greets Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Italian Prime Minister, at the Elysée Palace yesterday. M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, looks on.

Zimbabwe hunt for missing captain

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Nov 19

A nation-wide search is under way in Zimbabwe for an officer in the national Army who escaped from police custody four days ago while under investigation for allegedly passing information to South Africa.

The authorities are also looking for a senior police officer who was involved in the investigation and who, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs last night, obtained the release of Captain Frank Gericke from a police cell in Salisbury.

The statement said that Detective-Inspector Fred Varkevisser, accompanied by another man, had Captain Gericke released into their custody, ostensibly for questioning on Sunday night.

Mrs Marisa Varkevisser, the inspector's wife, and their two children have also disappeared. The family's Salisbury home was surrounded by security police today but, according to reliable witnesses, it showed signs of having been hastily abandoned.

There was no official statement today but police issued an impression of the third man who accompanied Inspector Varkevisser to the cells.

Captain Gericke, an explosives expert attached to an engineering unit of the Army in Bulawayo, was reported by the authorities five weeks ago to have been arrested for allegedly spying for South Africa.

Paris condemns Soviet arms

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 19

M Maurice Couve de Murville, General de Gaulle's Foreign Minister, told the Assembly in the debate on the budget of the Quai d'Orsay that he had "desperately searched in it for what might be considered the change proclaimed for the past six months". And he remarked with his dry humour that "no one would dare any longer to question the broad lines of the foreign policy, including the defence policy, condemned in the past so indignantly by all the parties born of the Fourth Republic".

The continuity in French foreign policy since May 10th when the Socialists took over was demonstrated by the applause on Gaullist and Giscardian benches which greeted the unmitigated condemnation by M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, of the "frightening progress" of the Soviet arms build-up "Which threatens the balance of forces between East and West", and of Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan; and his warnings against the dangers of pacifism and neutralism. "One must not flee from the danger of war; one must master peace", he said. "France, for her part, is more decided than ever to step up her defence effort."

Yet, a distinct change in the way in which, on Europe M Cheysson emphasized "the need to develop the community of the workers and not just that of the merchants and of big business." Cooperation with the Third World in the search for growth should not obscure "the fundamental nature of our commitment on the side of the weak and oppressed, of the proletarian nations."

Elysée answers cancer claim

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, Nov 19

Persistent rumours that President François Mitterrand has cancer, last night prompted the Elysée Palace to promise a health bulletin next month.

The aim was to kill the rumours and reduce the impact of an anonymous article in *Paris-Match* today about a secret visit by the President to the military hospital of Val-de-Grâce for tests.

The two-page *Paris-Match* article describes how the President registered at the Val-de-Grâce under the name of M Albert Blot, or Biot, and underwent complicated tests under the supervision of Professor Laverdan, a leading gastro-enterologist, and head of the medical department. The whole emergency medical team had been alerted. After the tests, his file was locked in the professor's safe, and it was decided to set up a team of 15 leading specialists to supervise the possible treatment the President would require, the magazine claims.

A report in *France-Soir* today that the President has been undergoing treatment for years at the National Cancer Institute of Villejuif are described as without foundation by the Presidential Office. The suggestion is that the latest spate of rumours is politically inspired. M Mitterrand's alleged cancer has been the talk of the town for years.

Trudeau's revised deal for constitution arouses anger

From John Best, Ottawa, Nov 19

The revised constitutional package, tabled in the Canadian parliament yesterday by Mr Pierre Trudeau the Prime minister, touched off almost as much controversy as the measure he introduced last year, but recently withdrew.

Debate on the resolution starts tomorrow. The aim is to bring the 1867 British North America Act (which comprises Canada's constitution). back to Canada and to end the British Parliament's residual control over it. Whereas eight of Canada's ten provinces opposed the unilateral federal resolution introduced in 1980, only French speaking Quebec is against the new resolution which is based on a compromise worked out at a meeting on November 5 between Mr Trudeau and the provincial premiers. Women's groups and Indians also oppose the package: the first because sexual equality provisions in the charter of rights attached to the proposed constitution have been watered down; the second because a clause guaranteeing aboriginal rights had been dropped altogether.

Women's leaders are calling the proposed charter a 'betrayal' and a 'roll call of shame'. Some Inuit leaders have threatened to close down federal installations

Mr Trudeau's most far-reaching disagreement is with Quebec, Canada's second-largest province, with six million people. Mr René Lévesque, the Premier, rejected two clauses in the rights charter that concern worker mobility and minority-language education rights.

He also objected to the majority decision against providing compensation for provinces that opt out of national social development programmes.

With the concurrence of the other provinces Mr Trudeau has inserted a compensation clause and introduced restrictions on English-language education rights in Quebec.

Mr Léverque still rejects the package, however and at present Mr Trudeau has little hope of going to Westminster with a resolution supported by all 10 provinces.

Mr Lévesque is using the dispute to try to convince Quebeckers that their province will always and inevitably be the odd man out in the confederation, and thereby build support for Quebec independence. In line with this the Premier last weekend vowed to fight a future election on the issue of outright sovereignty for Quebec as opposed to "sovereignty association", which means sovereignty in an ecomomic association with the rest of Canada.

Chemical warfare

Scientists are wary of 'yellow rain' claims

By David Spanier

British scientists are sceptical about American claims that the Russians are encouraging the use of chemical weapons — the mysterious and lethal yellow rain — in Cambodia, Laos and Afghanistan.

At a recent meeting at the American Embassy in London the general view of the scientists present was that there was not enough evidence to form a judgment, and that the evidence itself was patchy. The fact that large numbers of people died in horrifying circumstances, by massive internal bleeding, convulsions and other painful symptoms, was not in doubt; but the cause of their suffering was still a mystery.

The occasion for the discussion was a visit by Mr Sterling Seagrave, an American journalist and the author of *Yellow Rain*, recently published in New York. He has spent four years investigating suspected victims of yellow rain.

Mr Seagrave rests his case, as he admits on "curious coincidences" which, although alarming, are not proven facts. His story is nevertheless a terrifying one.

The scientists' doubts concerned not Mr Seagrave's capacity as a reporter, but the seemingly equivocal presentations made by the State Department on yellow rain.

The claims made by the department's bureau of politico-military affairs were based on analysis of three new samples taken from Cambodia and Laos found to contain abnormally high quantities of tricothecene mycotoxins (the T2 group of poisons). But they were felt to be too sweeping to be convincing.

In particular, the scientific evidence was said to be lacking in detail and depth.

According to Mr Seagrave, the State Department had not intended to publicise its claims so quickly, but was rushed into premature disclosure by a press leak. American officials would have preferred to wait for a wider-ranging report on the poisons found, he said.

The full, independent analysis of the samples of yellow rain, which the Administration authorized under approved scientific conditions, is not likely to be available for several months.

Meanwhile, the United Nations team investigating allegations that Vietnam is using toxic chemicals in Cambodia and Laos has had some success in inspecting samples during its visit to Thailand, Mr Seagrave said. Whether the United Nations team would be qualified to make an effective report was doubtful.

The difficulty, as Mr Seagrave's book makes clear, lies in gathering and in pinning down the evidence. So far, it is all largely circumstantial. He does not confine his investigation to the Russians alone. He is equally critical in his catalogue of American deceits over chemical and biological weapons.

□ Moscow accused: Lobbying the European Parliament in Strasbourg for moral and political support for guerrillas in Afghanistan, Mr Sayed Ahmad Gailani, leader of the National Islamic Front, told about 60 MEPs yesterday that the Russians were now using chemical weapons against the population in some areas (George Clark writes).

Claiming personal experience of resistance activities, Mr Gailani said: "The daily aerial bombardment of defenceless villages has become so ferocious as to amount to a scorched earth policy,. Saturation bombing, using fragmentation bombs, has been resorted to. Poisonous gas, napalm and phosphorous bombs containing chemicals which burn fiercely have been dropped repeatedly."

He claimed that in spite of the razing of Afghan towns and villages, the spirit of resistance remained strong.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

US jet sale to Pakistan gets vote

Washington.—A congressional committee has narrowly overridden opposition to President Reagan's plan to sell 40 F16 fighters to Pakistan.

The House of Representatives foreign affairs committee voted 13—13 on a resolution to block the $1,100m (about £570m) sale. A tied vote is enough to defeat such a proposal. The Senate foreign relations committee defeated a similar resolution 10—7 on Tuesday.

The two favourable votes indicated that the sale of the planes was likely to go ahead. The Reagan Administration says the jets would help Pakistan protect itself against the Soviet Union.

MEPs press for Channel tunnel

Strasbourg.—Conservative and Liberal Euro-MPs yesterday issued a joint appeal to the Heads of Governments meeting in London next week to give approval to community funds being used to provide financial guarantees for the building of the channel tunnel (George Clark writes).

Mr James Moorhouse, Conservative MEP for London South, said that the EEC Commission had calculated that 100,000 jobs would be created by the building of the tunnel and in related projects.

Ecevit must serve sentence



Ankara.—The Ankara martial law commander yesterday confirmed a four-month jail sentence passed on Mr Bulent Ecevit, the former Turkish Prime Minister, for violating a military decree banning former political figures from making public statements.

He is expected to begin serving the sentence within days, Mr Ecevit's lawyer said.

Turks seize Greek boats

Alexandroupolis.—A Turkish torpedo boat yesterday seized two Greek fishing boats with 10 men aboard and led them into Turkish territorial waters.

Greek harbour authorities said the boats were part of a group of 10 fishing in international waters about 13 miles south of Alexandroupolis and 11 miles from the Turkish coast.

Crew members of the other boats said that the Turkish vessel approached them at dawn and the two Greek boats were boarded by Turkish sailors armed with machine guns.—Reuter.

Kampucheans kill Russians

Singapore.—Democratic Kampuchean troops claim to have killed three Russians near the port of Kompong Som in Cambodia (David Watts reports).

According to the Democratic Kampuchean radio, the Russians were killed, with eight Vietnamese, in a "lightning attack" last week. The radio also claimed that another 18 Vietnamese were injured in a 30-minute exchange which destroyed a military camp.

Two Russians were killed on the road between Phnom Penh and Kompong Som earlier this year. Russian civilians have been working in Kompong Som since the Vietnamese victory against the Khmer Rouge in 1979.

West gives Uganda time to pay debts

Paris.—Uganda's leading Western creditor nations have agreed to give the bankrupt East African nation another 10 years to repay about $13m (£7.2m) of its debts.

After a meeting here, representatives of the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and Japan noted with satisfaction the application of an economic and fiscal programme backed by the International Monetary Fund.

They agreed to reschedule the debts so as to give these efforts a chance to bear fruit, they said in a joint communiqué.

Youths accused of consul's murder

Sydney.—Two youths aged 16 and 19 were charged yesterday with the murder of Mr Constantine Giannaris, the Greek consul-general in Sydney, who was found stabbed on Monday.

Both were also charged with the killing of a 41-year-old homosexual schoolteacher last month.—Reuter.

Kidnapped girl freed

Montepulciano. — Kidnappers set free Christina Peruzzi, aged 17, the daughter of a wealthy Italian builder yesterday after being paid a million dollar ransom. She was abducted five weeks ago.

Carrington puts on brave face for London summit

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 19

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, put on a brave but grim face after this morning's brisk, unbusinesslike meeting of the European foreign ministers here. It was brisk because it was over in three and a half hours. It was unbusinesslike because it apparently accomplished nothing which would make the rebuilding of Europe's finances possible in the near future.

Wearing his brave face, Lord Carrington said that his long experience in negotiations had led him to the conclusion that "difficult decisions are only taken at the last moment". Grimly he added: "The last moment is only a week away and we have some very difficult decisions to take."

In the intervening week before the London summit a great deal of behind the scenes wheeling and dealing will be going on in a last-ditch attempt to make the gathering of heads of state a meaningful rather than a platitudinous occasion.

Today's meeting had been specially convened after the two-day council at the beginning of the week had failed to reach any important measure of agreement on the three sections which make up the "mandate for change" of the Community proposed by the European Commission. Lord Carrington then gave a stern warning of disaster ahead if nationalist positions did not alter. He gave the same warning today making it marginally tougher.

In Lord Carrington's view, there really was no point in member states seeking to put off the evil hour. Decisions had to be taken, he said, and "nobody should have any illusions that putting them off will make them easier. In fact it usually makes them worse."

The one point on which there did seem to be agreement, he said, was the need for parallel progress on all three areas identified for reform—the agricultural policy, other policies and the budget.

Briefly, this means a decision on how to raise the Community's money and how to spend it. The difficulty boils down to the fact that some countries—like France—want to spend more money than there is, while other countries—like West Germany and Britain—want to have real limits placed on spending, particularly on agriculture.

The one "helpful element" in today's discussions, according to Lord Carrington, was in the section dealing with the budget. It transpires that the only significant contribution to this part of the debate came from Mr Gaston Thorn, the President of the Commission, who agreed that West Germany does have a problem in that it has to pay far too large a proportion of the Community budget.

Lord Carrington saw this as a straw with which to make bricks rather than one to clutch at when he said that the heads of state knew they had to reach agreement by the end of the year and thus would have to make substantial progress at the London summit.

At the same time, he reported that attitudes over agricultural policy changes had hardened, and there had been considerable unproductive argument on the "other policy" section.

Today's meeting succeeded in preparing nothing but a long, hard summit.

For Britain, having the presidency at this point is a mixed blessing. None of the other partners is under any illusions that the fundamental changes being sought are largely for Britain's benefit at least in the short term.

Mrs Barbara Castle, the leader of the British Labour group of European members of Parliament, said this afternoon that the inability of the meeting to begin to solve the problems was "a dark shadow hanging over the much-vaunted idea of European unity".

She went on: "Unless next week the heads of government at the summit meeting really show that the Community can reform itself, there is no need for the Labour Party to have an anti-market policy because the Common Market will have destroyed itself."

Swapo leader accepts Namibia peace plan

By David Spanier

Mr Sam Nujoma, the leader of the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo), said yesterday that his organization had agreed to new western proposals on Namibia designed to guarantee the rights of minorities after independence.

This is the first time that the Swapo leadership has expressed support for the new constitutional proposals of the Western contact group.

Mr Nujoma's comments were made at a political rally in Lusaka, Zambia, after the meeting of frontline African states in Dar es Salaam this week, called to consider the revised Western proposals. The collective response by the African states, received in London and other Western capitals yesterday, is described as reasonably encouraging, and in line with expectations.

The Africans' reply has raised hopes in the five-nation contact group that the first phase of the independence process can be completed by the end of the year. This would be the final draft of constitutional principles designed, in particular, to safeguard the rights of minorities after independence, and to prevent a "winner takes all" result.

Mr Nujoma said yesterday: "We have agreed to safeguard the interests of the minorities in Namibia because they are going to become citizens of Namibia."

In a somewhat conflicting statement in New York, however, the Swapo secretary for foreign relations accused the contact group of working with South Africa to ensure Swapo's defeat in the coming elections, and said no amendment to the existing United Nations plan would be acceptable.

Confirmation that progress has been made, however, came from a speech to the Lusaka rally from President Kaunda of Zambia.

□ Nairobi: Mr Robert Ouko, the Kenyan Foreign Minister, delivered today the response of eight African states to the Western proposals (Reuter reports). The reply was drawn up at the meeting of the frontline states together with Nigeria and Kenya. Details of the reply have not been disclosed.

Karpov looks set to clinch world championship

By Harry Golombek

The two-day rest in the World chess championship match at Merano must have given Anatoly Karpov, the world title holder, fresh energy and vigour for he opened confidently the eighteenth game yesterday with a Ruy Lopez to which Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, replied with his usual open defence.

The game went, for the first 12 moves, as the fourteenth and sixteenth games had gone; but on move 13 Karpov played P-QR4, attacking the weakened black pawn structure on the Queenside. This was a clear improvement on his previous play.

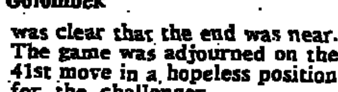
In the ensuing middle-game play he established a fine attacking position in the centre as well.

Korchnoi, always uneasy when he is on the passive defence, tried a typical counter-attacking manoeuvre with his 18 . . . , KR-Kt1. But Karpov exploited his positional advantage to perfection, driving back the enemy pieces and giving himself the best position he has achieved during the last few games.

Soon the world champion had established just the sort of position in which he excels above any other player of our time.

Playing with consummate force and accuracy he constantly increased his initiative and his command of the board. He gained command of the seventh rank with his rook and then, by advancing his centre pawns, broke open the central position and cleared the top two ranks of most of the pieces and pawns so as to give his rook the maximum command of the position.

Korchoi could do little but watch and when Karpov advanced his distant passed QRP it was clear that the end was near. The game was adjourned on the 41st move in a hopeless position for the challenger.

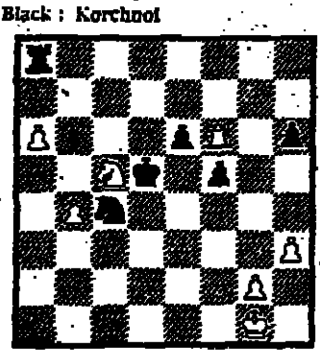


Eighteenth game
White Karpov. Black Korchnoi.
Ruy Lopez opening

1	P-K4	P-K4
2	Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3
3	B-Kt5	P-QR3
4	B-R4	Kt-B3
5	O-O	KtxP
6	P-Q4	P-QKt4
7	B-Kt3	P-Q4
8	PxP	B-K3
9	QKt-Q2	Kt-B4
10	P-B3	P-Q5
11	BxB	KtxB
12	PxP	QKtxQP
13	P-QR4	B-K2
14	KtxKt	KtxKt
15	Kt-K4	Kt-K3
16	B-K3	O-O
17	P-B4	QxQ
18	KRxQ	KR-Kt1
19	R-Q7	B-B1
20	P-B5	Kt-Q1
21	P-R5	Kt-B3
22	P-K6	PxP
23	P-B6	Kt-K4
24	RxP	R-B1
25	QR-QB1	RxR
26	RxR	R-Q1
27	P-R3	P-R3
28	R-R7	Kt-B5
29	B-Kt6	R-Kt1
30	B-B5	BxB ch
31	KtxB	PxP
32	P-QKt4	R-Q1
33	RxP	K-B2
34	R-R7 ch	K-Kt3
35	R-Q7	R-K1
36	P-R6	R-QR1
37	R-Kt7	K-B4
38	RxP	K-K4
39	R-Kt7	K-B4
40	R-KB7	K-K4
41	R-B6	adjourned

Position at adjournment after 41 moves

Black : Korchnoi



White : Karpov

"Jump!"

Haddad lifts siege of UN base

Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Nov 19

The three-day seige of 950 United Nations soldiers and 300 civilian employees at Enn Naqoura in southern Lebanon ended this morning when Major Saad Haddad, commander of the local Lebanese militia, suddenly withdrew his armoured cars from roads leading northwards to Beiut and southwards to the Israeli border.

Civilian employees quartered in the Israeli resort town of Nahariya returned happily to their own beds, but some were distressed to find thieves had broken into their cars parked on the Israeli side of the frontier.

United Nations sources said they were not told of the intention to remove the roadblocks this morning. However, the seige of some positions had not been totally lifted. United Nations observation posts on the Israeli border were resupplied this morning, but a convoy headed toward the territory of the Norwegian contingent east of Merj Ayun, Major Haddad's home base, was intercepted.



Isolated United Nations positions also complained of harassment by militiamen who entered and robbed them.

The problem of 18 militiamen on hill 880 at A Tira also remained unsolved. The hill is in the area of operations of the Irish contingent. The United Nations demanded that the militia withdraw, but the Irish, who encircled them, supplied them with three hot meals daily and sent a doctor to see them.

Israel Army radio tonight said Israeli officials had been attempting to influence Major Haddad to moderation. Political circles were quoted by the radio as saying they objected to some of his actions.

□ Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy, is to return to the Middle East at the end of this month to try to strengthen the four-month-old ceasefire in southern Lebanon and to negotiate a withdrawal of Syrian missiles (our own Washington Correspondent writes).

□ Britain warned: Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, said tonight that if Lord Carrington did not change his position regarding British military participation in the projected multinational force for Sinai, the British contingent "will stay at one of the palaces in London or elsewhere". Israel would oppose British participation in the force if the Foreign Secretary continued to talk in terms of supervising the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

Blasting of homes 'immoral and unjust'

MP attacks Israeli brutality

From Christopher Walker, Bethlehem, Nov 19

Disquiet is growing in Israel's Opposition Labour alignment over the new hard-line policy in the occupied West Bank, especially the dynamiting of six Palestinian family houses.

This policy of punishing the families of teenagers suspected of either stabbing an Israeli or throwing a petrol bomb has this month left more than 80 Palestinians homeless, including elderly people, women and children.

It was publicly attacked today by Mr Shimon Peres, the Opposition leader, who accused the Government of adopting overly harsh punitive measures.

Mr Peres said in Tel Aviv that when the former Labour government had ordered the demolition of Arab houses, it had been careful to restrict the measure to terrorists who had been caught and then only when the authorities were certain the terrorist owned the house.

Earlier, a prominent alignment Knesset member, Mr Victor Shemtov of the left-wing Mapam Party, took the unusual step of writing to the Palestinian mayors of Bethlehem and neighbouring Beit Sahur to express his shock at the blowing up of four homes this week.

"I am ashamed at the recent demolition of houses in Beit Sahur, as an Israeli citizen, as a Member of Parliament and as a former Cabinet minister", he wrote. "The destruction of homes as a collective punishment imposed on entire innocent families, is an act of brutality in my opinion and it flouts the principles of law and justice."

Mr Shemtov asked the mayors to tell the suffering families and their fellow townspeople that "very many Israelis regard the demolitions as an immoral and unjust act which goes counter to the principles of legality".

Today, Mr Elias Freij, mayor of Bethlehem, said he was pleased by the letter. He had been contacted privately by Israelis, including two other politicians and some prominent academics, who had all expressed similarly strong feelings.

The Israeli Army spokesman confirmed to *The Times* that the military Government would pay no compensation to Arabs in the destroyed houses. In addition, the plots of land in which the houses stood, have been confiscated by the Army to prevent rebuilding.

Separate estimates by Mr Freij and Mr Hanna Atrash, the Mayor of Beit Sahur, show the market value of the four houses destroyed was more than £150,000. The estimates were based on surveyors' reports. The values were high because the buildings were so big and because of the high cost of construction in the West Bank.

In a separate development, Mr Bishara Qumsieh, the 56-year-old owner of a small metalwork factory and self-appointed leader of the Bethlehem district village leagues, became the first Palestinian publicly to declare his willingness to take part in the proposed civilian administration for the West Bank.

The declaration, first made last night on Israeli television, came less than 48 hours after the Palestine Liberation Organization severely wounded Mr Yousif el Khatib, whom it accused of collaboration. The declaration immediately transformed Mr Qumsieh from relative obscurity to the most sought-after target for Palestinian gunmen in the occupied region.

The factory owner was given a round-the-clock Israeli guard within hours of the broadcast, and his decision was denounced by elected West Bank leaders who claimed the village league was unrepresentative and lacked its own offices.

"The leagues were born dead. They consist of collaborators with the occupation authorities. They have no legitimate, ethical or national basis", claimed Mr Freij, whose own authority in the Christian Arab town of Bethlehem was challenged in the television broadcast.

Today, while Israeli troops with automatic rifles patrolled outside Mr Qumsieh's house, the first recruit for the West Bank civil administration told me: "Despite what happened to Mr el Khatib, I am not afraid. I did not ask the Israelis for soldiers, they were sent by the military governor."

Showing no outward sign of concern beyond close attention to his worry beads, Mr Qumsieh added: "The way undertaken by President Sadat was the right one; there should be understanding between Arabs and Jews."

□ Jerusalem: The Palestine Liberation Organization largely failed in its call for a general strike today in the occupied West Bank and Gaza to mark the fourth anniversary of Sadat's visit to Israel (Reuter reports).

The happy faces of Israeli children in the Gaza Strip town of Yamit mask the anxiety of the small population. They face eviction under the final terms of the Camp David agreement which will hand back the town to Egypt next April. But the 500 families have resolutely decided to stay and await an inevitable confrontation with Israel.

East Europe hostile to Reagan offer

By Our Foreign Staff

Hostile East European reactions yesterday echoed the initial Soviet rejection of President Reagan's offer to negotiate sweeping arms cuts. Only the Romanian press declined to comment. This was predictable, given President Ceausescu's advocacy of withdrawing medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe.

The tone of the Soviet block's comment varied. The Czechoslovak Communist Party newspaper, *Rude Pravo* claimed that the American proposals sought to maintain United States military suporiority so that Washington could "carry out a nuclear war on the European continent."

Trybuna Ludu, the organ of the more moderate Polish party, said that Mr Reagan's speech "clearly aimed" at weakening Soviet defences.

Spokesmen for the West German peace movement were critical of the American appeal. Herr Wilhelm Borm, of the Free Democrats, said that "the prohibitive conditions which the President set can hardly be fulfilled".

Reaction inside the ecological Green Party ranged from detecting a change from "sabre rattling" to judging the proposals unfair on the ground that they excluded British and French nuclear weapons and American forward-based systems.

But Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, said: "The Soviet Union should take these proposals seriously and reply in a positive manner".

He told the European Parliament in Strasbourg that President Reagan had "expressly emphasized the will of the United States for peace and negotiation and has made substantial proposals for disarmament and cooperation which we fully support".

In London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher the Prime Minister, repeated her welcome for the American offer, expressed the previous day during her visit to Bonn.

"I formally welcome the great initiative of President Reagan in proposing not merely a limitation of nuclear armaments, but an actual reduction in nuclear armaments and a reduction in conventional forces as well," she said. "He has seized the initiative, and I hope we shall find a response from the Soviet Union".

Mrs Thatcher went on: "I hope President Reagan's initiative will go ahead to negotiations which, do not conceal from MPs, will be long and difficult, but very well worthwhile".

If a Russian response was not forthcoming, "then I think it is very serious for the amount of money we have to spend in future on armaments".

Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, who also expressed support for the American démarche, told the Prime Minister that Labour had a much better right to welcome it "since we have been arguing for it in Moscow, Washington, Europe and everywhere else."

Western delegates attending the European Security Review Conference in Madrid expressed keen disappointment at Moscow's apparent blanket rejection.

Kennedy says he will run for presidency

From Michael Hamlyn
New York, Nov 19

In a rousing speech, rapturously received, Senator Edward Kennedy has attacked Mr Reagan's economic policies and indicated that he would be seeking the presidency himself in 1984.

He reminded delegates at the centennial meeting of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) of an historic alliance between the Kennedy family and organized labour, saying "You have never abandoned the struggle, and neither have I."

His speech was repeatedly interrupted by applause, including five standing ovations.

"Some of you were part of my 1980 campaign, and some of you were not, but our commitment involves more than the outcome of any single contest. You and I share a bond that reached across the years. I have been so often at your meetings that I regard myself as a fully fledged member of the AFL-CIO."

The President's economic programme "treats human deprivation as a virtue", he said.

"We have only just begun to fight the fraudulent tax-cut which favours the very rich", he said, and added: "Democrats will not prevail by imitating the opposition. The last thing America needs is two Republican parties."

Like other speakers at the convention, Mr Kennedy could not resist criticizing Mr David Stockman, the Budget director. "Stockman gets taken to the woodshed and the rest of us get taken to the cleaners."

Mr Kennedy's reception far outweighed that given to the other Democratic presidential aspirant, Mr Walter Mondale, the former vice-president, who spoke at the convention on Monday.

All speakers have strongly attacked Mr Reagan's policies. The Government's relations with organized labour have never been so obviously bad. No Republican speakers were invited to address the meeting here in New York. In an effort at bridge-building Mr Reagan has, however, invited the AFL-CIO executive to meet him on December 2.

During yesterday's elections Mr Lane Kirkland, the AFL-CIO president, was given a second two-year term.

US backed over air controllers

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, Nov 19

The governing body of the International Labour Organization (ILO), despite Soviet objections, today endorsed conclusions by its freedom of association committee that the Reagan Administration did not violate trade union freedoms in denying air traffic controllers the right to strike.

The committee's finding was that as withdrawal of services by the controllers could endanger very large numbers of lives denial of this right did not constitute a violation of freedom of association principles. It regarded the Administration's recourse to military controllers in an emergency as being the only alternative to closing down all air traffic.

It hoped the situation would soon return to normal and asked the United States Government to keep it informed.

In opposing approval of the committee's report, the Soviet Union's representative accused it of applying double standards by softening the impact of the American Government's repression of the air controllers.

Its reactions, he continued, were always much more acute and not positive with regard to complaints against Soviet-block countries.

AMERICANS OBSERVE SMOKE-OUT

From Nicholas Hirst
Washington, Nov 19

At least 16 million Americans are expected today to give up their traditional way of starting the morning: a cup of coffee, a smoke and a cough.

This is The Great American Smoke-Out Day, and the fifth such event, organized by the American Cancer Society at a cost of $200,000 (£105,000) for the Thursday before Thanksgiving. Its success last year was stunning.

Last year, of the 16 million who started the day only with coffee and a cough, nearly five million got through the day without smoking and according to the Cancer Society, more than a million went for 11 months without falling prey to the vice.

It was James Bond who, when asked if he could smoke, received the answer: "If that is the way you want to die."

About 105,000 Americans are expected to die of lung cancer this year, with 85 per cent of those deaths related to cigarette smoking. About 350,000 deaths this year are expected to have smoking as a contributory factor.

To be a smoker in America is often to be a social outcast. In restaurants, smokers are often asked by other clients to desist.

Most cinemas, public transport and more than 80 per cent of the seats in aircraft are given to non-smokers. Half of all adult Americans smoked in 1962. In 1964 the Surgeon General reported how harmful the habit was and now only a third of the population goes on smoking.

Solidarity urges workers to show restraint

Warsaw, Nov 19.—Solidarity, the free trade union movement, called on its 10 million members today to show restraint as the Polish authorities repeated their warning that they could adopt emergency measures to halt strikes and social unrest.

Solidarity and the Government continued their talks today to resolve differences and find a formula for peaceful coexistence.

Solidarity's praesidium said it expected a period of intensified struggle during the negotiations and called on workers to avoid any moves that would enable the authorities to accuse the union of being irresponsible.

"We are entering a period in which the problems of our life will be decided for many years to come", Solidarity said.

The praesidium of the Sejm (parliament), issued a statement recalling that on October 31 parliament had unanimously approved a resolution allowing for emergency powers if the strike wave did not end.

The statement said that social tension persisted in Poland and strikes were being used over issues which should be resolved in other ways.

It recalled that the Sejm would consider "vesting the Government with such legal means as would be required by the situation" if strikes did not stop.

Mr Marek Brunne, a Solidarity spokesman, said the union was annoyed by the Sejm statement and related news media reports.

"We notice that their propaganda continues to speak of big turmoil and strikes when in fact we are almost clear of strikes. It creates the wrong impression," Mr Brunne said.

The only strike reported today involved newspaper delivery men who have refused to handle the official press in a large area of Poland for the past 10 days — demanding better conditions and pay.

Farmers were staging sit-ins in two cities to support a series of demands which include abolition of a barter-purchase system and the inclusion in the constitution of a declaration safeguarding private farming.

But the biggest protest movement was by students preparing to carry out their threat to paralyze all 105 universities and colleges by Tuesday in a series of sit-ins.

The students want the dismissal of the rector of an engineering college in Radom, a former army colonel, and the enactment in Parliament of a new liberal education law.

Mr Antoni Kajkiewicz, the Minister of Labour, said that strikes had cost the country 10,500,000 hours in lost production this year.

The Army newspaper, *Zolnierz Wolnosci*, said the strikes showed that either Solidarity leaders had lost control of the rank and file or that the union was actively promoting anarchy.

"Each possibility harbours an immense danger to Poland's existence; in the name of struggle for social rights and gains we are consciously sinking deeper into a quagmire", the newspaper added.

The Communist Party newspaper, *Trybuna Ludu* also attacked Solidarity today accusing it of launching a street poster campaign to back demands for access to the news media, one of the issues which the Government and union had agreed to discuss in working groups.

Trybuna Ludu declared it was nonsense to say that Solidarity did not have access to the media, arguing that the union's official and unofficial publications had a daily circulation of more than a million copies.

Solidarity, however, is pressing above all for access to radio and television, over which the authorities are determined to maintain control.

The union today published more details of the positions it intends to adopt in talks with the Government.

It repeated its demand that the Government should recognize a social council for the control of the economy.

The policy statement by Solidarity's praesidium said a social council would ensure that society exercised control over Government economic policies.

Mexicans tighten frontier control

From Stephen Downer
Mexico City, Nov, 19

Mexico is tightening control of its 800-mile-long southern border, across which thousands are fleeing from political violence in Central America. It has announced plans to increase its 11 immigrant posts by seven and has augmented Army patrols.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, highly critical of Mexico's handling of the problem earlier this year, has applauded the new moves. It sees them as positive in regularizing the legal status of many more people than was possible previously.

"We are beginning to see a change in attitude in Mexico towards these refugees," said Dr Jorge Santiestevan, the United Nations regional refugee protection officer, responsible for the area between northern Mexico and Panama.

The Mexican authorities say that United Nations estimates of between 70,000 and 140,000 Salvadoran and several thousand Guatemalans living in different parts of Mexico are exaggerated. However, they agree with Dr Santiestevan when he says that the number of people fleeing from Central America will increase.

The refugee flow coincides with the upsurge in violence in El Salvador, where about 26,000 people have met with violent deaths since the coup of October, 1979.



Refugees in peril, says Bianca Jagger

Bianca Jagger, photographed with refugee children in Honduras, has described how she and a group of Americans saw armed men take refugees back across the border into El Salvador from a small Honduran town.

The former wife of Mick Jagger, the singer, said about 40 refugees from the civil war were taken from a camp at La Virtud, Honduras, in two groups, some of them by El Salvador soldiers. All but seven refugees were released after their captors realized they were being followed and filmed, said Mrs Jagger, who was born in Nicaragua, and who was with a delegation from relief agencies.

"The lives of refugees are in danger. There were refugees taken away out of the country in front of our eyes", she said when she arrived in Miami on Wednesday.

"There were women, men and there were pregnant women (being abducted). The women with children were being struck with the (butt) of the rifle. When we found out, we ran with them ... with the cameras. The only thing that stopped them was the cameras. They finally released the people, but they came back and took the film out of the cameras so there would be no proof of what happened." — AP.

Albania accused over riots

Yugoslav plan to curb Kosovo demanded

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade, Nov 19

The central committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party has called for a comprehensive political and economic programme to overcome nationalism in the southern province of Kosovo where Albanian ethnic riots broke out in April.

Kosovo is an autonomous province with an overwhelmingly Albanian majority which, however, is part of Serbia, one of Yugoslavia's six constituent republics.

Since the riots in which according to official figures nine people were killed, more than 200 ethnic Albanians have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment on charges of incitement and subversion designed to provoke a succession of the region and its unification with Albania.

Yugoslavia has since then accused Albania of conducting a hostile policy designed to keep up national tension in the area.

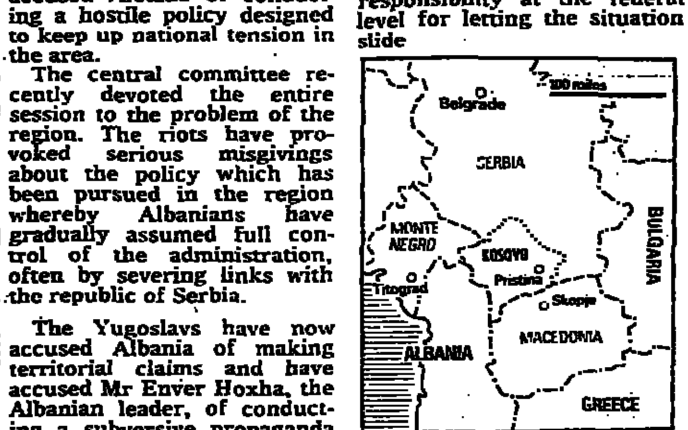
The central committee recently devoted the entire session to the problem of the region. The riots have provoked serious misgivings about the policy which has been pursued in the region whereby Albanians have gradually assumed full control of the administration, often by severing links with the republic of Serbia.

The Yugoslavs have now accused Albania of making territorial claims and have accused Mr Enver Hoxha, the Albanian leader, of conducting a subversive propaganda designed to incite nationalist feelings against Yugoslavia. The region has calmed down but tension persists.

The riots were a serious setback to Yugoslav-Albanian relations which, until then, the Yugoslav government was carefully cultivating even at the cost of turning a blind eye to the ideological propaganda conducted by Albania.

A state of emergency, declared as soon as the riots broke out, was lifted after three months but police and Army reinforcements remain in the area.

Many Yugoslav politicians at the time of the riots and after, publicly admitted to having been caught by surprise and claimed to have been receiving false information from the regional officials. Now, the newspapers have been questioning responsibility at the federal level for letting the situation slide



POLICEMEN TOLD TO FORM UNION

From Mario Modiano
Athens, Nov 19

The new Socialist Government has decided to encourage trade unionism in the Greek police, but has frowned on similar demands from soldiers.

Mr Ioannis Skoularakis, the Minister of Public Order, took the first step this week by inviting 150 representatives from all the security services to spell out their claims and grievances. Most speakers, of course, focused on working conditions, but there were some unusual demands, such as protection from retaliation by influential offenders.

Mr Skoularakis, who told them the Government wanted the policemen to set up trade unions, said: "I am sure all this will help to bridge the gap of hostility between the police and the citizens".

As the government was taking this bold initiative, the Defence Ministry announced it has ordered an inquiry into demands for trade union freedoms by six uniformed but masked soldiers

STRIKE GOES AHEAD IN ASSAM

Delhi, Nov 19. — A 36-hour general strike began today in the oil-producing state of Assam in north-east India to support demands for the eviction of immigrants, mainly from neighbouring Bangladesh.

The Indian Government yesterday banned stoppages in essential services in the state, including telecommunications, rail and air transport, banks, hospitals, oilfields and refineries.

But the Press Trust of India reported that all private transport stopped today and shops and bazaars were closed. A few buses were operating in the capital, Gauhati, but there were fewer passengers than normal. Official sources were quoted as saying that a bomb damaged a building in the city last night but caused no casualties.

☐ **Villagers killed:** Twenty-four residents of Deoli, a small village 125 miles south-east of Delhi, were today reported to have been shot dead in daylight by two gangsters (AP reports).

Soviet fisheries project entangled in red tape

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Nov 19

Food, as President Brezhnev has recently pointed out, is the Soviet Union's most important economic and political problem.

All help had to be given to anyone who could increase the Soviet output of food. But he reckoned without the stultifying self-interest of the Soviet bureaucracy. As a sad tale of fish-breeding shows, food is not legitimate food if it does not exist in some ministry's plan.

Three years ago the director of a power station near Kemerovo in Siberia hit upon the idea of using the warm lake of cooling water to breed fish. Three nurseries were built in the outlet channel and filled with baby carp.

The director's colleagues wondered why he took the trouble, but the figures spoke for themselves. In 1979 the station harvested 50 tons of fresh fish, the following year 400 tons and this year they have pulled some 700 tons out of the lake. The workers dine on fresh trout in their canteen, fish is on the menu in the local hospital, and there is a ready source of protein for the surrounding schools.

The director's scheme chimed in well with the party's latest efforts to boost subisidiary farming by peasants or even individual factories.

All went well for three years, but the fish business became too successful. It no longer looked like small-time private farming, but rivalled the professional hatcheries run by the Ministry of Fisheries.

The fish also needed 200 tons of feed a year. In the early days the station managed to wheedle feed from the Ministry of Energy, local authorities and, as a special favour, from the Ministry of Fisheries itself. But other power stations soon wanted to do the same — and the Ministry of Fisheries put its foot down.

Not one fish from any station's cooling lake would be counted in its own production plan. And any feed supplied to these entrepreneurs would be pure loss in the ministry budget. Despite all entreaties from the Kemerovo station, the local authorities and party officials in Siberia, the ministry has decided to cut off all feed for this coming year. The fish will simply die.

Pravda is horrified. This was the kind of inter-departmental cooperation and personal initiative of a director that the Soviet Union needed, the paper said. The power station was using the latest methods. Not wasting manpower and still fulfilled its plan in power generation. There were even plans for new hatcheries. The Director was wondering whether to start up grain mills to produce the feed themselves.

President Brezhnev told the party's central committee that the greatest enemy the Russians faced was economic lethargy — the refusal to adapt to new methods of planning and management. It is a message *Pravda* was also clearly addressing to the Ministry of Fisheries.

Britain's growing number of centenarians

What it's like to be 100 — more of us may find out

In 1877 Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India, Brahms composed his first and second symphonies, Tolstoy wrote *Anna Karenina* and Edison invented the phonograph. It was also the year that William Sheppard was born in Trowbridge in Wiltshire, the youngest son in a family of five boys. His father was a farmer. William Sheppard is not merely still alive: he is active, clear-headed and well-content with life.

Sheppard is one of an estimated 2,000 people aged over 100 alive in Britain today. No one knows for certain how many centenarians there are — the 1971 census gave the figure of 2,320, but this was later admitted to be wrong. What is known is that the numbers of those living beyond 100 is increasing at a spectacular rate, and that while 153 people aged over 100 died in 1950, the number had risen to 974 in 1979 (839 of them women). In 1962 when Buckingham Palace first started to keep records, 590 people of 100 or more received a telegram from the Queen. Last year, telegrams went out to 2,106 (844 last year went to Commonwealth centenarians).

Encouraging, perhaps, is the growing body of medical research which suggests that senile dementia, the clouding of the old mind, is rarely present in people who actually live to exceptionally great ages. Two people in every 10 over 80 are demented; by 85 the number rises to four. But among the over 90-year-olds there is little dementia — now commonly accepted to be a chemical disease — indicating that if you avoid its onset in the sixties, you may miss it altogether and turn out to be, in the words of Norman Exton-Smith, Professor of Geriatrics at St Pancras' Hospital, "one of the biological elite".

William Sheppard remembers the past with enviable clarity. In his early teens he was sent off to Devizes as an apprentice tailor. One day, seeing a recruiting poster outside the Wiltshire barracks he joined the army as a regular soldier, was immediately despatched to South Africa and had been there a month when the Boer war began. He broke in horses for the guns until Lord Kitchener sent his regiment to the front. Finally he was invalided home with enteric fever.

Back in Wiltshire, he found his father had left him £100. It was 1901, the year Verdi and Queen Victoria died and the Boxer Rebellion ended. He bought his own dairy business and on the outbreak of the First World War was sent to France, returning home in 1918 to resume his career as tailor. His life has been bounded by wars: he volunteered for service again in 1939, but by then he was 62 so they turned him down. He retired only in his eighties when his wife became ill. Today he lives in a sunny, spotless bedsitting room in a nursing home, visited by friends and relatives, walking in the garden, unhelped, in summer, eating in the dining room. Until this year he went to church every Sunday. He has smoked a pipe all his life and has a whisky before bed.

William Sheppard's lucidity is not exceptional. Sir George Schuster, an eminent public figure who turned 100 in April, can look back with almost entire recall on a life that started at the bar at the turn of the century, took in distinguished colonial service in the Sudan and India and five years as a Member of Parliament. He says that his powers of thinking on important issues have not deteriorated at all. Sir Robert Mayer, who resigned as chairman of Youth and Music only last summer — at the age of 101 — says that "so far as force of thinking goes, it's the same as 50 year's ago".

The stored memories

It is not only the powers of thought that are at stake at 100, there is that vast, accumulated body of material stored away in the mind, 100 years of memories. Mrs Mary Anderson, the daughter of a keen Liberal, remembers the day Mrs Gladstone came to tea when she was three and christened her doll.

Miss Ethel Wheeler recalls waving her father off to his job in the city when he boarded the stage coach on Clapham Common (the car was not invented until 1886). She was already 18 when she watched Queen Victoria in her landau drawn by eight cream-coloured horses on her way to the Diamond Jubilee. Samuel Page, born in 1881, the year Tsar Alexander II was assassinated, can see in his mind's eye a senior inspector heaving Mrs Emmeline Pankhurst firmly over one shoulder and carting her away during a suffragette rally.

Clear memory seems to be matched by a record of excellent health. Samuel Page admitted he had had sciatica 40 years ago, and that it had been painful. But none of the people I spoke to took regular medicine and Miss Wheeler, at 102 the oldest resident of the Methodist Home for the Aged in Croydon, is also the only one to take no pills of any kind. She has never smoked or drunk, but the others have, moderately. Sir George Schuster was a passionate cigar-smoker and now has two pipes a day. Emily Bench, who lives alone, doing her own washing and cooking, says she has always loved Guinness.

It is rare to be as physically independent as she is. Most people who have reached 100 are physically frail, reliant always on the help of others. To escape total dependence several of the people I spoke to said they were avid planners: Sir Robert Mayer has bought a flat in Cap Ferrat and is now thinking of a January cruise to the Caribbean; Sir George Schuster plots the expansion of the Atlantic College system he helped set up (and writes letters to *The Times*) and Emily Bench travels: to Majorca last year, to Greece this year.

What then is missing? "The countryside", says Mrs Anderson who loved climbing and walking and still walks herself to Harrods from her flat in Pont Street. "Playing cricket and bowls," says William Sheppard. "A garden", says Samuel Page, who won more than 400 prizes for his fruit after his retirement to Bournemouth from the Metropolitan Police 40 years ago.

"I am satisfied with my life", says Emily Bench, from her two-room flat near Kentish Town. This spirit of acceptance, contentment even, backed by assertions that they never suffered from depression (except for Sir Robert Mayer, depressed by the state of the world) was repeated by each of the people I spoke to. Several were churchgoers, and Sir Robert spoke of being Jewish, which for him means "deep pride in belonging to a people unjustly suffering". But only Sir George insisted on religion as being part of living so long, a feeling of actual support from the Christian faith.

Considerable scepticism surrounds the claims for Georgians in the Caucasus who are said to live a century-and-a-half; the birth certificates are seriously in doubt, say gerontologists. (Highest recorded age in England and Wales: 112 for a woman, 111 for a man. Oldest person alive today: Mrs Mary Hammond, 110.)

The average life expectancy for a Roman was 23 years, but the longest he could hope to live was then, as it is today, to the early hundreds. Life expectancy has risen dramatically. Its total span has not. Modern science does not claim the power to prolong life, merely to improve the physical conditions under which it can be lived — and indeed extend it healthily towards that maximum. And the day is not far off when it may be possible to determine early in life precisely who does fall within the "biological elite", who will have the fortune to expect to reach 100.

Caroline Moorehead



Sir George Schuster

Born April 25, 1881. Married (wife died). One son (another killed in action in 1941). Three grandchildren, one great grandchild. First in classics at Oxford. Became barrister, entered the City. Served in France in the First World War then in northern Russia with the Murmansk Force, and remembers Churchill arriving after Gallipoli in bright yellow boots. Financial Secretary to the Sudan Government, Financial member of the Executive Council of the Viceroy of India, MP (Liberal National) 1938-45. Chairman of Atlantic College. On 100th birthday his enormous mailbag included telegrams from five leading Indian statesmen. Lives at home, Nether Worton Hall, near Banbury.



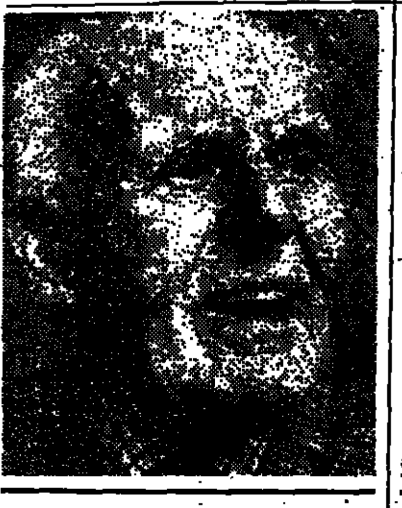
William Sheppard

Born October 27, 1877. Fought in the Boer War and First World War. Later became tailor for the Wiltshire police force. Married (wife died). Lives in Southfield Home at Devizes.



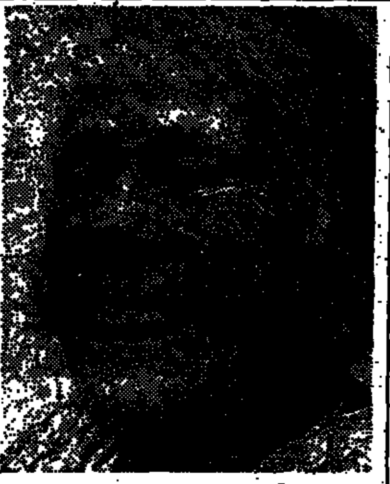
Mrs Mary Anderson

Born October 1, 1880. Married an early partner of Christie's; husband died. No children. Sent to boarding school in Scotland where there was not enough to eat, and to Versailles for six months to learn French. Was going to be presented to Queen Victoria, but opted for a trip on her grandfather's yacht to St Petersburg instead. Lives at home, in Chelsea, with a housekeeper.



Samuel Page

Born September 10, 1881. Married (wife died); no children. Brought up in East End and became apprentice gardener to an orchid nursery. In 1902 joined Metropolitan Police, serving in many London boroughs, the Tower and the Mint. In early years had one day off in every 14. Retired 1931; oldest surviving member of his force. Prodigious memory for songs, anthems, hymns, verse and can repeat the alphabet backwards at high speed. Kept a diary in Pitman's shorthand until the age of 98. Lives at the Avon Nursing home, Bournemouth.



Mrs Emily Bench

Born July 11, 1879. Father a sailor and later a blacksmith with the railways when they used horses. Went to work at 13 as a nursemaid but being no good at it joined a munition factory during the Boer war. Married at 24: four daughters, eldest now 79; one a spiritualist living in New Zealand. Six grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Husband, on the railways, died 40 years ago. Goes to bingo one evening a month, to a day centre twice a week. Lives on her own, in a flat in Kentish Town.



Miss Ethel Wheeler

Born September 7, 1879. Single. Father worked for the Bank of England. Went to Mary Datchelor school for girls and later Clark College. Holidays at Ramsgate when swimming was from horse-drawn bathing machines. Worked for the Post Office for 42 years. In the Second World War was buried by bomb; awarded the MBE for war work. Great interest in Renaissance art, particularly Florentine. "I have been contented, always", she says. "Very even-tempered." Lives at the Methodist Home for the Aged in Shirley, Croydon.



Sir Robert Mayer

Born June 5, 1879. Married twice, the second time last year, when "I embarked on a new chapter of my life". Two sons, one daughter, nine grandchildren. A "Tolstoyan" at 18, he worked in the City until his early fifties when he retired to devote his life to music, founding Youth and Music and presiding over many musical events and institutions. "I have by-passed old age. It doesn't worry me. I ignore it." Lives at home, in central London, with his wife Jacqueline.

Law Report November 20 1981 **House of Lords**

Immigrant family not intentionally homeless

Regina v Hillingdon London Borough Council, Ex parte Islam (Tafazzul)

Before: Lord Wilberforce, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Lowry and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered November 19]

There is nothing in the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 or in its obvious policy which entitles a local authority to exclude from the benefits of the Act foreigners or immigrants who have acquired under the immigration legislation the unrestricted right not only to live and work in this country but also to bring their families to live here.

The House of Lords allowed an appeal by Mr Tafazzul Islam, a Bangladesh citizen who has lived and worked in this country since 1965 and so had the status under the Immigration Act 1971 of a person settled here with indefinite leave to remain. He appealed from the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls and Sir Denys Buckley, Lord Justice Ackner dissenting) (*The Times*, May 23; [1981] 3 WLR 109) affirming Mr Justice Glidewell in refusing him orders for judicial review against the Hillingdon London Borough Council and its homeless families panel.

The applicant had come to England from what was then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) when he was 23. During subsequent visits to Bangladesh he married, and over the years they had four children who lived with his wife at his parents' home in Bangladesh.

In 1974 he applied for visas for his family to join him here. After considerable delays over entry clearance they arrived in England in April 1980.

The applicant prior to their arrival, had moved from a room he had occupied for 14 years to lodgings in Cowley Mill Road, Uxbridge, consisting of a shared use of one room. When the wife and children arrived the landlord at first refused to have them in the house but later gave them temporary though wholly inadequate accommodation until September 8 when he turned them out.

The applicant applied to the local authority, the Hillingdon London Borough Council, for accommodation under section 4(5) of the 1977 Act. The homeless families panel of the council resolved (1) that though the applicant should be considered homeless he was not in priority need as his dependent children might not reasonably be expected to reside with him, having lived apart for the past seven years; (2) that, even if he were in priority need, the applicant should be considered to have become homeless intentionally, having arranged for his wife and children to leave accommodation which it would have been reasonable for them to continue to occupy; and (3) that accommodation would continue to be secured for the applicant and his family up to and including October 16, 1980.

On an application for judicial review of the panel's decision, the judge held that though the applicant did have a priority need under section 2(1), he had, by bringing his family to England without ensuring that there was permanent accommodation available for them here, rendered himself and them "intentionally homeless" within section 17(1).

Section 2(1) defines "priority need" as including a person who "(a) has dependent children who are residing with him or who might reasonably be expected to reside with him".

Section 17(1) provides: "Subject to subsection (3) below, for the purposes of this Act a person becomes homeless intentionally if he deliberately does or fails to do anything in consequence of which he ceases to occupy accommodation which is available for his occupation and which it would have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy".

Section 16 defines "available for his occupation" as "available for occupation both by him and by any other person who might reasonably be expected to reside with him".

Mr D. A. Wood, QC, and Mr Andrew Arden for the applicant; Mr J. E. A. Samuels, QC, and Mr Robin Barratt for the local authority.

LORD WILBERFORCE said that it was important to appreciate the particularity of the facts and to appreciate that, since Mr Islam came to this country before 1973, his application for entry clearance for his family could be made and entertained without the necessity of showing that accommodation here was available — as had to be shown in post-1973 cases.

His Lordship stated the facts summarized above and said that the judge had rejected paragraph (1) of the panel's decision that the applicant was not in priority need and there had been no appeal against that [by the council]. The majority of the Court of Appeal had dismissed Mr Islam's appeal from the judge, holding that he became homeless intentionally, but differed in their reasons for so holding. His Lordship could not agree with either of the reasons given.

Lord Denning decided the case on the basis that Mr Islam was occupying "available" accommodation in Bangladesh. But that approach — which might be possible in some cases — was not supported by the facts. There was no finding, or evidence, that the Bangladesh accommodation was ever "available" to the applicant himself, or that he was ever in occupation of it.

Sir Denys Buckley disagreed with that approach but held that by bringing his family here Mr Islam deliberately did something which had the effect of rendering the shared room at Cowley Mill Road accommodation no longer available for his occupation.

But that overlooked the provision of section 16 which was to be read into section 17. The room at Cowley Mill Road was never accommodation (within section 1) available for occupation by him and his family — so section 17 could not be applied to it. Sir Denys Buckley's alternative ground was that the accommodation in Uxbridge and Bangladesh taken together could constitute "available accommodation" occupied by the applicant. But his Lordship did not think that rooms in two separate continents could be combined in that way.

On the other hand, not without misgiving, but without any doubt, his Lordship had reached the conclusion that the dissenting judgment of Lord Justice Ackner was correct and was glad to adopt the Lord Justice's reasons as his own. Put briefly, the case was four square within the Act: the applicant was "homeless": he was entitled to priority: he never had any "available accommodation" within the meaning of section 16 which he could give up: section 17 could not be applied to his case. There was no answer to his claim.

While the result in his particular case might be considered acceptable, in view of Mr Islam's long residence in this country and his efforts to unite his family here — and his Lordship entirely accepted that immigrants as such were not intended to be excluded from the Act — his Lordship shared Lord Justice Ackner's misgiving whether, in relation to persons from overseas (whether EEC or otherwise) or indeed to some persons moving from one part of this country to another, the Act was as well considered as it was undoubtedly well intentioned.

The difficulties of the Act were certainly diminished to some extent by the Court of Appeal decision in *De Falco v Crawley Borough Council* ([1980] QB 460) where a whole family was held to have deliberately left accommodation which was available to them in Italy, which, having regard to the housing situation in Crawley, it was reasonable for them to have continued to occupy. But many foreseeable difficulties remained; and his Lordship ventured to suggest the need for some reconsideration of the Act. He would allow the appeal and grant declarations as sought by the notice of motion.

LORD LOWRY, concurring, said that Mr Justice Glidewell did not mention section 16 either in reviewing the Act or when considering whether the applicant became homeless intentionally. From that omission and an amendment the applicant sought in the Court of Appeal it might be inferred that neither side drew the judge's attention to that important provision which, if taken into account, *could* have prevented an otherwise clear and logical judgment from falling into the error. As it was, the judge was led to apply *De Falco*, in which section 16 was not important because the entire family had been living together in Italy in suitable accommodation.

In the present case, however, resort to section 16 had the effect of making it appear that the judge had said that the applicant had become homeless intentionally on September 8, 1980, because he sent for his wife and children, in consequence of which he ceased to occupy accommodation in the landlord's house which was "available for occupation by the appellant and his family and which it would have been reasonable for the appellant to continue to occupy". And yet it was clear from the inadequacy of the accommodation in the landlord's house that it was not available for occupation by the applicant and his family. What the judge actually said was that the panel were entitled to decide, on the facts known to them, that, in bringing his family to England from Bangladesh without ensuring that there was permanent accommodation available to them, the applicant had rendered himself, and them also, homeless intentionally.

His Lordship examined critically the reasoning of the majority of the Court of Appeal — which he considered unsound.

The proceeding before the House was *not* an appeal but an application for judicial review. The applicant must show that, on a proper construction of the Act and having regard to the facts the panel had no right to be satisfied under section 4(2)(b) that he became homeless intentionally. That was not a difficult task. The panel, as now conceded, were not entitled to find that the applicant had not a priority need, because he had dependent children residing with him in England.

His Lordship's conclusion was that by no artificial or other expedient, however ingenious, could a finding of intentional homelessness be legally sustained. It was therefore idle for the local authority to suggest that the House should not interfere with the panel's decision unless it was plainly unreasonable.

It was clear that the policy of the Act included the object of bringing and keeping families together, and his Lordship could not readily adopt a strained construction which would frustrate that policy and promote the object, which was not to be found there either expressly, or by implication, of postponing the otherwise valid claims of homeless persons and families who had their origins outside Great Britain.

The local authority had an unenviable and difficult task in administering the Act and their officials, let it be clearly proclaimed, had gone to the greatest lengths of compassion and industry to alleviate the lot of the Islam family; but they had still sought to restrict their liability to such people.

One of the reasons in their case amounted to a submission that a housing authority owed no duty under the Act to any family unit which had not previously occupied a family home in Great Britain. His Lordship found that completely unsustainable. It was merely a special way of advancing the equally untenable general proposition that housing authorities owed no duty to "foreigners" under the Act.

It was linked to the unsound proposition, which would penalize some residents in Great Britain, that a "local connexion" was requisite. A straightforward reading of sections 5 and 18 disposed of that argument. The applicant, of course, had in fact two local connexions through residence and employment.

The view his Lordship took of the law made it unnecessary to consider the panel's decision in detail, but it appeared to him to be one in which, as Lord Radcliffe put it, "the true and only reasonable conclusion contradicts the determination" — another way of saying that there was no evidence to support the panel's decision and it ought therefore to be reversed by judicial review.

He would allow the appeal and grant the three declarations sought by the notice of motion.

LORD BRIDGE, concurring, said that he would be hard put to it to formulate any defensible principle to justify denying the benefits conferred by the 1977 Act to immigrants, who, like the applicant, had acquired under the relevant legislation controlling immigration, the unrestricted right not only to live and work in this country but also to bring their families here.

Different considerations might apply to immigrant workers from EEC countries, who enjoyed unrestricted freedom of movement within the Community and equal rights with nationals of member states in matters of housing. But if those were at all likely to impose a substantial addition to the domestic burden which housing authorities had to bear, the problem would seem to arise rather from the relevant Community law itself than from any shortcomings in the 1977 Act.

Lord Fraser and Lord Russell agreed.

Solicitors: Edward Mackie & Co, Greenford; Mr J. A. Kosky, Uxbridge.

Who pays for tanker's port delay under Exxonvoy form

Nereide SpA di Navigazione v Bulk Oil International Ltd

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered November 19]

On the proper construction of a charterparty, the charterers were not relieved from liability to shipowners for delay in the vessel getting into berth unless the charterers had also designated and procured a safe place or wharf reachable on arrival. On a proper construction of the Exxonvoy 1969 standard tanker voyage charterparty form, the House of Lords held that clauses 6 and 9 had to be read together and there was no express provision in the charter that the risk of congestion at the port, causing delay in berthing, was to be placed on the shipowners.

The House allowed an appeal by Nereide SpA di Navigazione, owners of the tanker Laura Prima from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice O'Connor and Lord Justice Fox) (*The Times*, April 9) who had held in favour of charterers, Bulk Oil International Ltd, that on the true construction of clauses 6 and 9 in the Exxonvoy 1969 form, widely used in the tanker trade, the shipowners and not the charterers had to bear the loss arising from delay after arrival at the port of discharge, due to congestion in the port. Mr. Justice Mocatta ([1980] 1 Lloyd's Rep 466) had held that charterers must bear the loss.

By the charterparty, dated November 22, 1978, the shipowners chartered the Laura Prima to the charterers for a voyage from one safe berth at Marsa El Hariga, Libya, to a safe port in west Italy. Laytime was to be 72 hours and the rate of demurrage US $33,247 per day.

Clause 6 provided: "Notice of readiness: Upon arrival at...port of loading... the master...shall give the charterer...notice...that the vessel is ready to load... cargo, berth or no berth, and laytime... shall commence upon expiration of six...hours after receipt of such notice... However, where delay is caused to vessel getting into berth after giving notice of readiness for any reason over which charterer has no control, such delay shall not count as used laytime".

By clause 9: "The vessel shall load... at any safe place or wharf, or alongside vessels or lighters reachable on her arrival, which shall be designated and procured by charterer..."

The Laura Prima arrived at her loading port in Libya on November 27, 1978 at 0140 hours, and the six hours' notice of readiness was given. She was unable to proceed to her loading berth until 1630 hours on December 6, since all possible berths were occupied by other vessels.

The shipowners claimed that the vessel came on demurrage at 0740 hours on November 30, 1978, that being the 72 hours after expiry of the notice of readiness, and remained on demurrage until 1900 hours on December 8 when loading was completed. The amount of the shipowners' actual demurrage claim was US $355,451. Alternatively they advanced a slightly smaller claim for damages for detention for breach of clause 9 totalling US $307,913.

The charterers claimed to be protected against those claims by the last sentence of clause 6, contending that all the loading port delay was caused by congestion over which they had no control.

The dispute was referred to arbitration in London. Two arbitrators disagreed. Mr Bruce Harris as umpire rejected the shipowners' claim in its entirety. He stated his award in the form of a special case and gave his reason, namely, that the last sentence of clause 6 was very clear and protected the charterers against the demurrage claim since he had found as a fact that "the sole cause of the delay to the ship getting into berth until 1640 hours on December 6 was the unavailablity of a berth due to the presence of other ships for which the charterers were not responsible, it not being in any way within their control." On the alternative claim for damages the umpire held that though the charterers were in breach of clause 9 they could offset against any resultant claim for damages the time lost during any periods which, by reason of clause 6, were exempted from counting as laytime.

The umpire made alternative awards in favour of the shipowners according to whether it was ultimately held that they were entitled to demurrage or damages. Mr Justice Mocatta upheld the award for demurrage and did not deal with the alternative claim for damages. The Court of Appeal allowed the charterers' appeal and restored the umpire's award.

Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC and Mr Bernard Rix, QC, for the shipowners; Mr Anthony Evans, QC and Mr Stephen Tomlinson for the charterers.

LORD ROSKILL said that the House was once again invited to determine the incidence of liability as between shipowners and charterers under a voyage charterparty for delay in loading and discharging ports caused by congestion.

In his Lordship's view the instant appeal turned on the answer to be given to a short question of construction of two clauses, clauses 6 and 9 in the Exxonvoy 1969 standard tanker voyage charterparty.

It was to be emphasized that in this context, as indeed in others, time was money and it was therefore of commercial importance to the parties to provide how the resultant financial loss caused by delay in loading and discharging was to be borne, such delay by congestion being in recent years one of the most common causes of delay.

Today many charterparties contained either as part of some standard form or as a special addition some express provision as to the incidence of financial loss if time which would otherwise be available for loading or discharging was wasted because the ship was obliged to await a vacant berth. In the present case the construction of the Exxonvoy form must be determined by reference to its own provisions and not to those of some of its predecessors.

Of the standard clauses, clauses 6, 7, 8 and 9 alone were relevant and the all-important clauses were 6 and 9.

The argument for the shipowners was that clause 6 only applied and protected the charterers, and prevented lay time from running if the charterers, pursuant to their obligations under clause 9, had designated and procured a safe place or wharf or vessels or lighters reachable on arrival. Then, if some intervening event occurred causing delay over which the charterers had no control the last sentence of clause 6 applied to protect them.

Did "berth" in clause 6 mean a berth which had already been designated and procured by the charterers in accordance with their obligations under clause 9? If it did the Court of Appeal reasoning was wrong and the appeal must succeed. The charterers' argument involved reading "berth" as "any berth" and not the "designated and procured berth" required under clause 9.

But it was axiomatic that clauses in charterparties as in other contracts must be construed as a whole. His Lordship could not ignore the opening words of clause 9 in construing the penultimate sentence of clause 6.

Mr Evans, for the charterers, sought to escape from that construction by arguing that the berth did not have to be immediately reachable on arrival. It was enough, he said, if it could be reached after arrival, provided the delay in reaching that berth was not such as would frustrate the charterparty. He contended that a berth did not cease to be reachable on arrival if it became reachable after arrival without frustrating delay.

That argument failed. "Reachable on arrival" was a well known phrase and meant precisely what it said. If a berth could not be reached on arrival the warranty was broken unless there was some relevant protecting exception. The berth had to have two characteristics: it had to be safe and it had also to be reachable on arrival. Mr Evans naturally relied on the umpire's finding of fact, and claimed that it was unequivocal. It was unequivocal, but that fact did not avail the charterers unless the berth which the ship was prevented from reaching by reasons over which they had no control was one which had already been designated and procured by the charterers in accordance with their clause 9 obligations.

Mr Evans also sought to support his construction of the last sentence of clause 6 by asserting that if that form were used by any of the major oil companies as charterers, that sentence could rarely, if ever, protect the charterers since such companies would be likely to control all loading and discharging berths and it could not therefore be claimed that any delay in reaching such berths was due to reasons over which they had no control.

The present charterers, he said, were in a relatively small way of business and operating in the spot market and therefore should be more readily entitled to the protection of the sentence. It was to his Lordship a novel proposition that the construction of a clause such as clause 6 could be legitimately made to depend on the identity of one of the parties.

The case seemed to have proceeded in the courts below on the footing that there was a conflict between clauses 6 and 9 which required reconciliation.

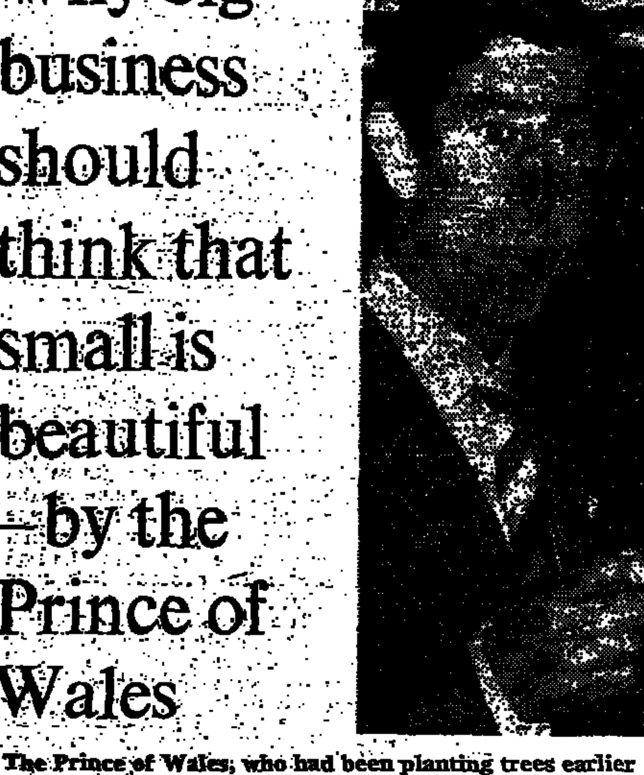
Properly construed in the manner suggested, those clauses were in no way in conflict, but were complementary one to the other. His Lordship would allow the appeal and restore the decision of Mr Justice Mocatta.

Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser, Lord Scarman and Lord Brandon agreed.

Solicitors: Richards, Butler & Co; Norton Rose, Botterell & Roche.

Advice from a Prince

Why big business should think that small is beautiful—by the Prince of Wales



The Prince of Wales, who had been planting trees earlier yesterday in Hyde Park with the Princess of Wales, was in a practical mood again in the evening.
He addressed the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Britain's largest professional organization in engineering, at a dinner at the Hilton hotel in London, and took as his theme the role of the individual in business in Britain. He opened in a light-hearted vein but turned to the more serious issues, including the role of small business and Britain's black economy. A partial text of his speech follows :

"One of the most appalling problems confronting the hapless speakers on occasions such as these is the choice of a theme on which to propound one's outlandish theories—and, perhaps, by which the expectant, hushed audience can be appropriately entertained. I am sure you all know the problem—

1. Will my theme turn out to be exactly the same as one of the other speakers ? (If *so*, you can actually feel the ulcer forming.)
2. Can I find a theme which is new and exciting and which won't begin to demoralize me because I have heard myself speaking on it countless times ?
3. If I do find something new and exciting, how do I prevent it being too controversial and causing mass resignations from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers ?
4. *If it isn't controversial*, how on earth do I persuade anyone to pay attention and listen to what I am *saying* ?
5. How do I stop my wife from removing my pen while writing this, sitting on my knee and *telling me that I ought not* to be writing dull speeches, but doing something else ?
6. Wait a minute—as an honorary fellow should I *really* be expected to speak ? Why me ? Why not one of the other *eminently qualified honorary* fellows ?
7. If I do find a suitable theme, what conceivable difference will it make to the course of events ? Will the audience rise up from the Hilton as a *man, a distant look in each* eye as they march forward towards a new and clearly defined dawn, which I have just inspired them to see ? The answer, of course, is an emphatic "no". As with acting, music, poetry or the visual arts, there are endless aspirants to success and stardom, but very few speakers have the natural gifts to inspire large numbers of people to follow their advice. The ones that do, seem so often to be rather dangerous.

"One theme that recurs, and which depresses me deeply, is this one of how badly we are all doing in this country. It is a curious fact of life, maybe of British life, that failure attracts a disproportionate amount of interest. I, along with large sections of the press seem to be one of those people who constantly hears about disasters or failures in all sort of circumstances.

Desperate inventors who want help

"The Institution of Mechanical Engineers knows this only too well because I send poor Alex McKay a certain number of letters a year from desperate inventors or misunderstood engineers to see if he can do anything to help them. After several of these letters you begin to feel that the whole place is suffering from similar problems, but the *truth* is, of course, that none of the successful people ever write to me—they have no need to.

"And yet there are successes. I hardly dare mention this when I know what *problems many companies* are facing ; that many smaller firms have gone bankrupt and that there are many difficulties to be overcome before new small businesses can be started up. But I do know that *there are a considerable* number of companies that set an excellent example, even at a time of recession.

"I came across several of them at the annual reception at Buckingham Palace for the *winners of The Queen's Award* for Export Achievement earlier in the year. A week or two ago I met a number of Asian businessmen who had become extraordinarily successful after coming to this country from *Uganda, Tanzania* and Kenya without a penny to their name.

"There is little doubt in my mind that the Asian community in this country frequently sets an outstanding example of what hard work, close family ties, service to the customer and reliability can, in fact, achieve.

"I am sure that a considerable number of jobs must have been, and are still being, created in Britain by small firms, run by Asians or anyone else. There are no satisfactory figures in Britain yet, but I expect you all know that in America studies by the MIT and others show that between 1969 and 1976 nine million jobs were created.

"None of these was created by America's largest 1,000 companies : 88 per cent were created by '*small businesses*', 66 per cent were created by firms with fewer than 20 people and 80 per cent were created by 'new' firms which were in existence for less than 5 years.

"In Britain it is fascinating to witness the development of 'management buy-out' schemes where larger companies hive off one of their own activities, thereby helping former employees to run it independently.

"Over 250 of these 'buyouts' are anticipated in the next 12 months and one or two big companies, like Pilkington, ICI and BSC have set a really *encouraging example in this* field by trying to tackle the fearsome problems that exist in their own closure areas.

Importance of the individual

"This recent, and important, trend points to something significant taking place in the human consciousness. An awareness, at last, that it is the psychological well-being of the *individual which is one of the* most crucial factors in deciding a nation's economic situation.

"The psychological well-being of the individual is far better served if he is able to work within easily defined *limits, within a smaller unit and* with a management which is more readily recognizable and which involves him or her more closely, perhaps in the problems of the company.

"The possible future prosperity of this country depends to a great extent on the speed with which other companies emulate the example of such as the ones I have just mentioned and the speed with which we can adapt the educa*tional and* training methods to suit the new requirements. One of the greatest complications faced by modern industrial societies, however, seems to be the speed with which new fashions or trends in industrial life appear.

"As a result, only those societies which can catch up quickest with the changes, and adapt their *institutions and* structures most rapidly succeed in the global nightmare of competition. Frequently, of course, the time taken to adapt means that you are out of date by the time the process has taken place, so that it is extremely hard to keep ahead of events.

But at the same time small enterprises need fertile ground in which to *flourish and that* is something which I would have thought needs careful consideration. With only 10 per cent more population, West Germany has 40 per cent more firms than the United Kingdom. Is it that they have less regulations, less form-filling ? More exemptions for small business than we do ? Do they have such a *large* "*black* economy" as we do ?

"The estimate a while ago of the chairman of the Inland Revenue Board was that 7·5 per cent of national income is black. It is interesting to note —*and it is not* to approve the morals of tax-evasion—that the increase of the black economy shows that people do not, once they are free of their companies, their unions and, to a certain extent, their government, shirk the idea of work as such.

"It just seems to show that here is an area that may need more study to see how such a phenomenon could perhaps be turned to everyone's legal advantage.

"Whatever happens, there is great scope for improving the whole industrial scene in a "*smaller*" way *that motivates* the individual and increases the level of innovation and adaptiveness. Thank goodness for those firms which are leading the way and showing what can be done. After all, it is worth remembering that if every small business took on one more person the unemployment rate could be lowered by over a *million. Just think what* bigger companies could do to encourage this."

Advice for a President

Sort out your Cabinet, Mr Reagan

By James Reston of the New York Times in Washington

● Judging by the noise around here, you would think the big question about the Reagan Administration these days was not whether it had a nuclear *policy, but whether it had a* magazine policy.

Mr David Stockman, director of the Office of Management and Budget, was condemned for his loose handling of words in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and *Mr Richard Allen was con*demned for his loose handling of money "received" by him from a Japanese magazine as sort of a finder's fee for an interview with the President's wife.

This is what has recently dominated the news. In both cases, these incidents were damaging to the President, because Mr Allen gave the impression that he wasn't quite telling the truth about Mrs Reagan's interview, while Mr Stockman gave the impression that he *was* telling the truth about his criticism of Mr Reagan's budget.

And of the two, telling the truth about what's going on around Washington is usually *more dangerous* to the President than misplacing what happened to a mere thousand dollars.

Nothing fascinates Washington more than these personal slips and tangles. They are revealing in some ways, and provide arguments for the opposition in the coming election year, but they also divert attention from the important questions of public policy.

For example, an important *event took place in Washington* during the uproar over Mr Stockman and Mr Allen that was largely ignored. The President finally presided over a meeting of his National Security Council on Thursday morning *to discuss and to sign the* American negotiating position with the Soviet Union on the control of nuclear weapons. This is obviously the central question of world politics, because the burden of the arms race, now costing the nations more than $800,000m (£440,000m) a year, is aggravating the economy of all nations.

So the main news is not *really* Mr Stockman and Mr Allen, but that the Reagan Administration is finally and reluctantly going through a reappraisal of both its economic and foreign policies.

On *domestic policy*, Mr Stockman has challenged the assumptions of the economic supply-siders. On foreign policy, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, has carefully begun to challenge the assumptions of Mr Reagan's military hardliners and cold warriors.

Mr Haig said some interesting things in his testimony before the House Foreign Relations Committee the other day. He spoke after talking in New York to Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, for nine hours. For the first time, he seemed to strike a *balance between his emphasis* on military arms and his desire for peace.

"The United States wants a constructive relationship with the Soviet Union", he said. "Such a relationship must be *based on a secure military bal*ance, respect for the independence of others, restraint in the use of force, and reciprocity in the making and fulfilling of agreements."

Mr Haig added : "The Soviets *have deployed over 750 war*heads on their SS20s threatening Europe while Nato has not yet deployed one of its planned 572 missiles. Despite this revealing fact, well-meaning people want to know whether we are *serious about negotiating limita*tions on theatre nuclear forces. The answer is clear. Of course we are. We want a balanced *agreement, one that would* establish equal, global and verifiable limits, at the lowest possible level, ideally zero."

This was the theme of the Secretary of State's, argument for Washington's negotiating position with the Russians on the control of theatre and strategic weapons, now to begin soon. He was very tough about "restraint and reciprocity", but at the same time he came out strong for *serious* negotiation to reduce the present tensions, par*ticularly since his previous hard* line had proved to be totally unacceptable to the European allies.

It is here that the President will clearly have to intervene between the conflicting views and personalities within his Cabinet, and not just say, as he did with Mr Stockman and Mr Allen, that they should "shut up" and try to stop fussing with one another in public.

What is forcing a reappraisal by the President is not only the *doubts of Mr Stockman on* domestic policy or the doubts of United States allies on nuclear strategic policy and Middle East policy, but the demonstrations against his casual rhetoric and nuclear policy now developing in Europe.

He is saying on social policy at home and nuclear policy abroad the most hardhearted things in the most lighthearted way, and doubt about his policies is beginning to catch up with him.

The main news now is that the mood in Washington is switching. Mr Stockman and Mr *Haig by their remarks*, and the allies by their lack of confidence in Mr Reagan's economic, nuclear and Middle East policies, are forcing Mr Reagan's principal aides, if not Mr Reagan himself, to recognize the rising revolt against his amiable drift.



Broken lance ? One tart comment from the Chicago Tribune.

How Whitelaw put the lid back on Britain's penal dustbins

The first day of the Conservative Conference, October 13, marked a defeat for Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, with wider implications than then realised.

Demanding tougher measures to combat crimes of violence, including the reintroduction of capital and corporal punishment, the conference threw out a motion which many delegates believed was too vague and feeble in its proposals for strengthening the forces of law and order.

Mr Whitelaw, who had supported the motion, afterwards went to a room at the back of the conference hall to discuss the result with Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

It is now clear to many working in the penal system that, at that point, his prisons policy was shattered. The carefully even handed approach, with which he proposed to have tough measures against those who deserved them yet cut the pressures on the prison population, was immediately at risk.

One sign of the extent of frustration that has since built up in the prison service was the letter in *The Times* yesterday from the governor of Wormwood Scrubs, Mr John McCarthy, who described himself as "manager of a large penal dustbin." Prison governors, let alone someone as diffident as Mr McCarthy, do not usually express themselves publicly in such strong terms.

Mr McCarthy would not go on the record yesterday to add clarification to his last sentence: "If I do not stand up I shall be like a political party putting pursuance of power before humanity".

Mr McCarthy who is known to be a man of enormous humanity, did not say he was referring to the Conservative Party, but many, using the same words, do refer to it.

For years, governors, prison officers, Boards of Visitors, senior civil servants and the prisoners themselves have been warning of the consequences of inaction over the rising population and other pressures on the system. In the spring and summer of 1979, many anxious hours were spent within the Home Office in the preparation of a secret contingency plan in case

Prison staff are in no mood to have the political wool pulled over their eyes . . . They know there is a crisis

the prisons exploded into disorder and possible death.

The prison governors had already warned: "So far we have successfully avoided loss of life during serious disturbances, but if the present trend continues there will be a serious loss of control, which has to be quelled by armed intervention by another service. In such circumstances there is a probability of both staff and prisoners being killed".

Then the Conservatives came into office, and with them Mr William Whitelaw, as Home Secretary. Before the election, he had let it be known that tackling the crisis in the prison system was for him a priority. He has continued to say so ever since. But now many in the prison service feel betrayed. They feel they have been sacrificed for the sake of political expediency.

The key to Mr Whitelaw's reversal of policy is his idea for introducing automatic parole for short sentence prisoners.

Before the party conference, though Ministers were saying that the advantages and disadvantages of such a move would have to be carefully weighed, there was a clear implication that it was essential for the Government to act. They admitted that if nothing was done, overcrowding would get worse. If it did, the Home Secretary would have to consider a much more drastic intervention in the criminal justice system.

Besides, as Mr Whitelaw himself said, extending the concept of parole to cover prisoners serving sentences up to 18 months could bring within its scope almost half the sentenced prison population.

Since the party conference, Mr Whitelaw has gone cold on the idea. He is now ready to ditch it. The reasons he gives are that the courts and probation service have expressed misgivings about the effectiveness of the scheme. There was a real danger, he said, that an increased length in sentences awarded would off-set the effect of automatically releasing offenders after a third of their nominal sentence. Instead, he is now backing the idea of courts being given the power to suspend part of a sentence.

There is a vast difference between the two proposals. Automatic parole could mean the immediate release of people already in prison if the Government wished. The decision would not be that of any court. By contrast, giving the courts the power to suspend part of a prison sentence could have no possible affect on the existing prison population and would be outside the Government's control.

The way he put the replacement proposal across to the annual meeting of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders on November 10 indicated the extent of his *volte face*. He was saying the opposite of a Home Office report, done with his approval, as recently as May.

The report, *Review of Parole in England and Wales*, said there could be no certainty that suspending sentences would "achieve any reduction in numbers in custody and would not confer any advantage in the treatment of individual offenders." But Mr Whitelaw said on November 10: "This could lead to a further reduction in effective sentence lengths."

It was that Home Office report that Mr McCarthy referred to in his letter — along with other quoted doubts about the effectiveness of suspending sentences as a way of reducing the prison population.

Prison staff I talked to yesterday were in no mood to have the political wool pulled over their eyes any more. They know there is a crisis that demands immediate effective action. They know that Mr Whitelaw knows there is too. If he does not take that action they will believe, that he is indeed "putting pursuance of political power before humanity."



William Whitelaw (left) and John McCarthy: a Home Secretary who changed his tune and a prison governor running out of patience

Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

David Watt

The Reagan ally who won't play the game

The tensions between the United States and its European allies are so much analysed and lamented over at present that Europeans may easily under-rate the significance and potential dangers of the rift on the opposite side of the world between the United States and Japan.

On the surface, the transatlantic quarrels look more dramatic. They involve highly emotional issues in the clash of wayward, not to say uncontrollable public opinions on both sides. But these European issues are probably easier to resolve than those that now lie between the Americans and Japanese, and though the Japanese are better than Europeans at dissimulating and other evasive action, their feelings are deeper, more complicated, and may, in the long run, be more destructive.

The Reagan Administration's complaints about Japan's performance as an ally look remarkably like the standard American line with Europe. First, they demand that the Japanese should behave as responsible members of the western free trade system — opening up their markets to outside (and particularly American) exports and reducing the huge (and increasing) trade surplus they are at present amassing. Secondly, they insist that Japan should spend far more on defence and rely less on United States forces in the Pacific. And thirdly they maintain that the Japanese ought to assist American efforts to secure western oil supplies in the Middle East, if not with military support then at least with the application of cash and diplomatic help where it is needed.

Given the present American mood of embattled dissatisfaction with the state of the globe, this *is* neither a surprising nor an unreasonable charge-sheet. It is notoriously the case (as the Europeans have discovered for themselves) that in spite of many promises and expressions of goodwill and some liberalization, many non-tariff barriers and what an American Congressional committee recently called "cultural barriers to imports" have remained in Japan — the big business groupings, the vertical interlocking of large, medium and small firms, the lack of independent dealers in some sectors, and the ferocious domestic competition for shares of the existing market.

It is also true that Japan's expenditure on defence is still no more than 1.3 per cent of their GNP and their international aid is miles below even the miserable target set by the UN. As for the Middle East, they have admittedly produced some financial assistance for Pakistan, Turkey and Oman but far from toeing the American line they have shown no enthusiasm for the Camp David process and have outraged American sentiment by receiving Yassar Arafat of the PLO in Tokyo last month.

The fact is that Japan has done very well as a free-rider on the international systems of the past 30 years, and most European governments reviewing the situation in their own markets now heartily endorse the prevailing Washington view that the Japanese must be induced to pay their way before their activities cause a major crisis in the free trading system. That is why delegations from the European Commission as well as high-powered emissaries from the United States and Canada have been pouring into Tokyo this past week in a concerted attempt to cajole and admonish the Japanese cabinet into taking the remedial action.

In my opinion they have very little real chance of success. No one, of course, can doubt the physical ability of the Japanese to contribute far more to the international system. Tokyo is crammed with proofs of it — the high efficiency of every kind of service, the aggressive self-confidence of Japanese businessmen, the sceptical intelligence of officials, and the absence of foreign cars from the streets.



'The intensive hierarchy and paternalism, the elderly tycoons and flocks of deferential juniors, the fierce ambition . . . and the terrible haphazard ugliness of Japanese cities — these are the manifestations of a society whose underlying competitive pressures are explosive'

Unfortunately there is also abundant confirmation of the narrowness and sheer cultural strangeness that keep Japan aloof. The intense hierarchy and paternalism, the elderly tycoons and flocks of deferential juniors, the fierce ambition and the lachrymose relaxation in the late-night bars, the exquisite taste for formal beauty, and the terrible, haphazard ugliness of Japanese cities — these are the manifestations of a society whose underlying competitive pressures are explosive and which finds in its own private and formalized culture the means of keeping the lid on.

Such a system is not geared to rapid change and does not easily respond to external shocks. The trade deficit can, and no doubt will, be reduced by a variety of relatively minor adjustments including a very reluctant rise in the value of the yen. The bamboo bends to the wind. But a rapid opening of the Japanee domestic market to real external penetration and a major reduction in the international competitiveness of Japanese industry are beyond the ability of the society to deliver.

The first could not be achieved without structural upheavals that would involve the most powerful groups and attitudes that are built into the social fabric of the country. The second would entail putting an industrial revolution into reverse, for even if something were to be done in the short term to blunt the Japanese attack on the traditional sectors of the American and European economies such as steel and ship-building and cars, the huge investment in Japan in the last few years in electronic and precision machinery is virtually bound to establish her by the second half of the 1980s in a competitive class of her own not merely in the "new technology" industries but in all sections (including traditional ones) where high productivity can be achieved by technological means.

On the defence questions the obstacles to a change of policy are less tangible but no less difficult to overcome. The post-war settlement, for Japan, consisted basically of an act of submission to the conquering and all-powerful United States. This honourable compact between the victors and vanquished was, and is, seen in Japan as having been on the one hand a promise by Japan to renounce her warlike past and in return a promise by the United States to protect her new client.

The understanding has subsequently been amended by the creation of the small Japanese self-defence forces (limited by statute to not more than 1 per cent of the GNP). But the basic principle involved commands an almost complete consensus in Japan and it is this consensus that the United States now appears to the Japanese to be attacking. Not only are the Americans threatening to withdraw a measure of protection from Japan in order to be able to move forces from the Pacific to the Middle East but they are also demanding that Japan get into the war business again. To the older generation who remember the war it seems dangerous folly to let this genie out of the bottle again, and to the younger an affront to Japanese pride.

There is a self-serving element here, of course, and it is compounded with xenophobia. It simply does not suit the Japanese Government to increase its defence budget in line with the extraordinary growth of Japanese GNP. But there is another deeper factor at work — a stirring sense that Japanese strategic interests are not necessarily congruent in every respect with America's. Fifty per cent of Japan's energy comes from the Gulf and she is determined to secure it, so far as she can, by diplomatic means.

"If we have to choose between oil and the United States", remarked one Japanese official last week, "we shall choose oil". he hastily added that of course the object of Japanese policy was to avoid this fearful choice, but he was signalling a psychological change of enormous importance.

The post-war dominance of the United States over Japan is beginning to break up. The disintegration has not yet gone very far and so long as the Soviet Union continues to act with such unintelligent hostility towards the Japanese, their sense of vulnerability will ensure it does not get much further. But the American dilemma is that almost every move the United States wants to make is likely to accelerate the process

To sum up the object of American and European policy ought to be to get Japan to play, so far as possible, a cooperative role within the bounds, and rules of the western economic and political system. Japan's extraordinary society and position make it virtually certain that this aim will for many years be at best only partially achieved. What are we to do? One possibility and the policy which has been pursued for the last ten years is to keep up steady pressure but to accept some quite serious damage in our most sensitive economic advance for a long time to come. The alternative is to push our pressure to the limit, entering on a confrontation, even trade war, with the risk that Japan would move out of our political and economic orbit into a rogue elephant position.

Prudence suggests that we should continue on the second path, and the question is whether the mounting political pressures in the West will allow it.

Mirror, mirror on the wall — lie to me

New York

Plastic surgeons seem poised to take over from psychiatrists as merchants of the American dream, though they are none too eager to grasp the honour. More than 2,000 were in New York recently to celebrate the golden jubilee of their professional association and determined, it seemed, to show they are just as boring as any other type of surgeon.

Yet the high seriousness of the scientific programme was subverted by the off-stage gossip, the whispered hero worship that went on in the hotel lobbies. "Guess whose nose he has just got . . . There goes the boob king of Las Vegas . . . . That's the guy who's reslung half the asses in Beverly Hills." As the surgeons and their "accompanying persons" waited for limousines to take them to theatres and restaurants, the style of conversation reinforced the American suspicion that plastic surgeons are doctors who train to do good, then learn to do well.

The American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons Inc. is sensitive about this image, and has the public relations bills to prove it. One of its handouts emphasizes that only 40 per cent of its members' operations involve "aesthetic surgery" and, sure enough, the week's scientific programme harped heavily on the treatments of burns and the "replantation" of amputated limbs.

Even so there was much talk in the bars about "body sculpting" and one stand in the exhibition hall did a brisk trade in cheery pictures for the surgeons to show to their patients — an ape-faced man saying: Don't envy a good complexion . . . buy one", and a woman — blonde, of course — sitting *en negligée* before her dressing table saying: "Mirror, Mirror on the wall . . . lie to me." The society's official emblem is a scalpel-clutching hand rampant before the Venus de Milo. When I asked whether this implied that the surgeon had cut off the arms or was about to "replant" them, I got the curt reply: "The official symbolism is Venus reconstructed."

The most relaxed surgeons at the conference were those who actually enjoy their specialty's racy image. Most of them practise in California or are lazy-accented Southerners who tend the cosmetic needs of folk of the ilk of the J. R. Ewings.

The Californians have few hang-ups about their work. But then, neither do their patients. David Niven has described how he once embarked on a throwaway remark at a dinner party. "You can always tell a woman's plastic surgeon by the cut of her . . . ." He had the attention of all seven faces around the table and realized with horror that each one bore that uncreased smile that only a surgeon can hitch in to place. Then he remembered he was in California and relaxed, for there few people have inhibitions about their cosmetic operations. Dammit, all the surgery is so expensive you want folks to know you can afford it.

'In California, a woman who has had a face job, a chin job or a boob job will give a cocktail party for her plastic surgeon as soon as the scars have healed'

In California, a woman who has had a face job, a chin job, a nose job or a boob job will give a cocktail party for her plastic surgeon just as soon as the scars have healed, and invite her friends around so she can show off what he's done for her. The surgeons, whose role hovers uneasily twixt that of doctor and gigolo, are delighted to attend because these show-off parties are where they recruit most of their future customers . . . a sort of surgical Tupperware technique.

The Californian approach to cosmetic — I beg its pardon, aesthetic — surgery derives quite naturally from the cult of youth that prevails in that state. (In Santa Monica you qualify for a senior citizen's pass at the age of 50). In truth, the chase is not so much after youth as after the energy that youth bestows. And, as the cult has spread east, it has produced casualties. Here in Manhattan, at the end of any working day you can find tired men in the mid-town bars striving dangerously to live up — or, more accurately, down — to the age of their hair transplants.

Even more dispiriting is the risk of cosmetic overkill. One "happy hour" I happened upon a bunch of aesthetic surgeons and their wives and girlfriends. At first glance the women were stunningly attractive. A second glance revealed that every one of them had been "body sculpted". The effect was detumescent. They reminded me of those aloof ladies who, when I was an adolescent, modelled underwear on London Underground posters and whose breasts and thighs were surely sculpted from ice.

The most beguiling explanation of why first psychotherapy and now cosmetic surgery are logical adjuncts to the American Dream, comes from a British expatriate, Bruce Sloame, who is chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Southern California. He talks of the "Saniflush" concept of psychiatry. This depends on people believing they all have it within themselves to achieve greatness — indeed to become President — if only some therapist could flush out those inhibitions and complexes that get in the way and hold them back.

Could it be that people now believe that it's not so much inhibitions as baggy eyelids, baldness or sagging boobs that prevent them fulfilling that elusive dream? Physical image could be as important as mental cleanliness. Hitting the yellow brick road may not, after all, be a matter of letting it all hang out, but of getting it all tucked in.

Michael O'Donnell

The author is the editor of World Medicine

Betting begins on a new Chief Stipe

With the imminent retirement (in the spring) of Evelyn Russell, the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate (the "Chief Stipe"), I hear that the racing solicitors have opened a book on his successor. The "evens" favourite is Edgar Bradley, now at Camberwell, who is the right age and has the right kind of experience.

Traditionally, the £23,250-a-year appointment falls to a magistrate who is senior both in age and service. Recent incumbents have held the extremely demanding position for just a few years. Russell himself, who will be 69 next month, became Chief Magistrate only in 1978.

If this pattern continues, William Robins, former clerk of the magistrates' courts and who sits at Bow Street with Russell, is probably too young at 57. Similarly, David Hopkin (Marlborough Street), vice chairman of the British Boxing Board of Control, is knocked out at 59, as is 52-year-old Ronald Bartle (Bow Street).

If there is to be a break with centuries of tradition and a woman appointed, the rather firm Audrey Frisby, 53 (Wells Street) would be the choice, but surely she will have to wait one more time?

Not only is Edgar Bradley's age, 64, about right for the job but his experience as a committee man also puts him ahead of his rivals. Much of the Chief Magistrate's work is taken up with such bodies as the Lord Chancellor's Committee, and the Magistrates' Courts Association. Bradley qualifies on this score as chairman of the Legal Committee but he has also been on the council of the Justices' Clerks Society.

He will be the one to beat, though some fancy Eric Crowther, 57 (West London), another experienced committee man.

The Times Diary betting: Bradley evens, Crowther 3 to 1, Robins 4 to 1, Hopkin 6 to 1, Bar 8 to 1.

Cuisine royale

Rosanna Lloyd is the rather shy daughter of a Welsh solicitor. She is also a mean cook with a wide range of dishes from bread and butter pudding to *coulibiac* (a Russian fish pie with flaky pastry and ingredients including sewin, mushrooms, egg and cream). In the New Year she will move to Highgrove in Gloucestershire as cook-housekeeper to the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Yesterday Miss Lloyd, 34, took time off from her duties as cook at Wolf Castle Hotel near Haverfordwest (praised by Egon Ronay for its culinary delights) to say: "I am delighted and very honoured."

The royal couple had been searching for several months for a cook at Highgrove, the Georgian mansion refurbished, as this Diary disclosed, by Dudley Poplak, the interior designer.

Miss Lloyd, who was yesterday preparing venison in beer with chestnuts for 50 hotel guests, expects to cook a lot of simple dishes when the royal couple are not entertaining. Her only shortcoming, I am told, is a lack of experience in preparing baby food.

THE TIMES DIARY



An imaginative move by the Institute of Jewish Affairs, the research wing of the World Jewish Congress, appears to have paid off better than even it had hoped. The institute, which will celebrate its fortieth anniversary with a dinner at the Painter Stainers' Livery Hall next Tuesday, has just learned that Osama El-Baz, chef de cabinet of Egypt's new President, Hosni Mubarak, has agreed to address the 150 or so diners, who will include Lord Lever, Isaiah Berlin; Sir Immanuel Jacobovitz, the Chief Rabbi; Lord Goodman; and Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress in New York (and chief executive of Seagrams, the whiskey firm). The institute had invited any member of the Mubarak Government to its celebrations but feels especially fortunate that El-Baz, who is also Mubarak's foreign policy adviser, is the chosen man. The institute believes it is the first time any member of the new Egyptian Government has addressed a Jewish audience outside Israel.

Film fun

Leslie Halliwell, the film buff whose purist devotion to Hollywood's golden era is constantly compromised by his job as chief film buyer for the ITV network (he brought *Charlies's Angels* and *The Incredible Hulk* to our screens) has recently found himself in an even more invidious position than usual. In *Halliwell's Film Guide* to 8,000 English language films he slates *Shampoo* as an "ugly little sex farce with few laughs", *The Black Bird* as a "dismal, witless, boring parody of a classic crime", and *The Wind and the Lion* as "both confused as a narrative and unexciting as an action piece".

Curiously, ITV viewers have been treated (if that is the right word) to all three masterpieces during the last eight days. Halliwell, who paid a "modest" price for them, told me yesterday: "I don't show these films for myself; mine is not the only view. What I say doesn't prevent them from being good entertainment."

Pray for a defeat

One terrifying postscript to England's victory over Hungary at Wembley on Wednesday . . . Suppose England actually win the World Cup in Spain next summer (unlikely I know, but it only makes the rest of this more plausible). Suppose also that the Princess of Wales gives birth in that same June to a son. Imagine the pressures that might follow such a conjunction of events. This time next year we could have a Prince (and future King) Kevin.



Costly vision

Heaven's Gate is synonymous in Hollywood with excess but another film, which has never been released, makes the picture look positively cheap.

Inchon has so far cost Mitsuharu Ishi, a Japanese publisher, more than $46m (about £23m), although Hollywood's insiders say the figure is closer to $55m.

It is the true story of General MacArthur's landing at Inchon, a move that turned the tide of the Korean War. Publisher Ishi has told colleagues that he decided to make the picture "because a vision came to me from God".

Naples: A Very Special Report

"The communist mayor of Naples has resigned, 12 months after the number of people murdered in the city this year rose to more than 200 . . . Gangland war has now reached unprecedented proportions. . . . The price for a murder on commission is now as low as three million lire (about £1,260), police say . . . Four rival Mafia gangs are fighting for control of the city's multi-million pound crime industry . . . A detective said: 'It really has become a case of See Naples and Die'."

In view of such details in this week's papers, the Special Report on Naples, which *The Times* was to have published as a separate supplement, had been somewhat reduced in size and I have been asked to take it.

Naples — an economy on target
Economically, it is unique. Run in recent years by communists it is nonetheless a haven for what are known as "mafia monetarists" who specialize in cash transactions and a strict demand-demand economy.

Banking
The three major banks in Naples are:
● Lasagne Bros. Specialists in debt collection, arson, blackmail;
● Banca Valpolicella. Theft, smuggling, life insurance (by special arrangement with Smith and Wesson);
● Credita Cosa Nostra. This bank has only just recovered its former pre-eminence owing to the imprisonment of its Godfa— managing director, Giuseppe da Palermo. He is however now reported to be running the bank again, albeit from a cell in the Alfredo Capone Memorial Prison.

Business brief
The revenue of Naples is overwhelmingly dependent on the city's traditional skills of extortion, fraud and the exploitation of its most plentiful natural resource, restaurant waiters. These recent trading figures highlight the growth areas:

	1980	1981
Chemicals (overdoses reported)		
marijuana	17	91
heroin	6	32
Entertainment (No of times establishments raided)		
Lazy Lil's	26	3
Smeralda's sinerama	17	3
Road vehicles (No. stolen)	212	937

Local customs to remember
The Vendetta: The oldest tradition in southern Italy. Usually takes place after early mass on Sundays. Still the most effective way of dealing with rivals.
The offer you can't refuse: Peculiarly Italian. If you are intent on negotiation in Naples you can save on company overheads by buying a one-way ticket.

Names to know in Naples
Chief of Police: Sr Luigi da Palermo; President, Chamber of Commerce: Dott Antonio da Palermo; Chairman, Neapolitan Import-Export Exchange: Sr Alfredo da Palermo; Harbour Master: following the tragic death last week of Rodolfo Catania, whose Fiat exploded, the position of Harbour Master is now expected to be filled by Christmas. Sr Vicenzo da Palermo, currently a waiter at the Trattoria Mt Etna, looks set to take over.

Peter Watson



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE SOVIET RESPONSE

The Russians are obviously irritated that Mr Reagan has stolen a march on them in the competition to show who *wants peace* most. It is especially galling for them just before Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn, which is intended, among other things, to give a big push to the Soviet peace campaign. But there is also another reason for their rejection of his proposals on arms control. They have always maintained that there is already approximate parity in Europe, since their SS-20 missiles are merely a response to the forward-based American systems which the Americans refused to include in the strategic arms limitation talks (Salt). It would therefore be wholly inconsistent of them suddenly to embrace Mr Reagan's proposals, which in their eyes — both for propaganda purposes and perhaps genuinely — look like an attempt to put the clock back to a situation of imbalance.

Nevertheless, if they want their own professions of concern for arms control to be taken seriously they will have to begin to show greater flexibility once they get to the negotiating table in Geneva. The American offer is, after all, only an opening move, as is, one hopes, the Soviet response. Both sides will have to show some flexibility if progress is to be made, and the Americans themselves do not regard the full "zero option" as being a very likely outcome. Equally, the Russians cannot realistically expect a unilateral zero on the western side — that is, the cancellation of Nato's decision to deploy new weapons while Moscow is left with its SS-20s and other missiles in position, even in the reduced numbers that Mr Brezhnev has offered.

Nato does need some modernization on its side. Its existing theatre missiles are short range, and its aircraft and their bases are becoming more vulnerable to new Soviet weapons. It needs something between the dangerous battlefield weapons on which it relies (too much) to make up for its conventional inferiority. It needs weapons capable of striking at Soviet rear formations and supply lines. And it needs weapons that can reach Soviet territory so that the Soviet Union is not tempted to believe it could remain unscathed if nuclear war broke out in central Europe.

The Pershing II and cruise missiles on which Nato decided in 1979 are a fairly minimal requirement. President Reagan's offer to cancel their deployment is in fact quite generous, and is questioned by some military experts. It would not look very good on a purely military map. But Mr Reagan has rightly decided that the political need to get serious arms control going is paramount, and that the military disadvantages would be survivable. The Russians should admit this to themselves, even if they cannot yet bring themselves to admit it in public.

The unilateralists in the west should also see it. To be fair, many of them, including Professor E. P. Thompson, address their calls for disarmament equally to east and west — though the Russians never publish those parts of his speeches which are addressed to them. But behind this outward fairness there always seems to lurk an emotional conviction that the Americans pose a greater danger to peace than the Russians. He and his followers have on their side the argument that three American presidents have failed to get Salt II ratified, which has been extremely damaging to the alliance and to east-west relations, but they tend to turn a blind eye to Soviet sins. Now that President Reagan has made a proposal better than any the Russians have made, nuclear disarmers ought to show more signs of binocular vision.

ALL EYES ON THE LOSER

It is a reflection of the crisis afflicting the Labour Party that in yesterday's elections for the Shadow Cabinet more immediate interest was displayed in one candidate who was universally expected to fail than in the 15 who succeeded. In the event Mr Benn, with 66 votes, did better than anticipated: only 17 votes and five contestants separated him from the Shadow Cabinet table. Put another way, and more ominously for Mr Michael Foot, this means that over a quarter of the Parliamentary Labour Party were prepared to go against their leader on an issue where Mr Foot had put his own authority firmly on the line.

A few of these may have been soft-hearted souls who *did not* want Mr Benn to suffer a personal humiliation; or shallow tacticians who hoped to disguise the growing gulf between the party in Parliament and the activists in the constituencies (over 80 per cent of whom voted for Mr Benn as deputy leader two months ago). But the inescapable fact is that all 66 of them, extending well beyond the far left, voted for a candidate who has openly waged a campaign against the rights of the parliamentary party and against the collective responsibility of the Shadow Cabinet; and who, because of that, was equally openly denounced by their party leader. As such, theirs were votes of no-confidence in Mr Foot. Had they been sufficiently numerous to elect Mr Benn then a major crisis would have been precipitated in the party. That has been avoided — but probably only delayed, since Mr Foot's ability to impose the kind of authority which he was finally and commendably beginning to show last week has undoubtedly been impaired by this result.

However, while yesterday was a bad day for the present ruling regime, it did throw forward some encouraging rays of light on Labour's leadership potential in the future. Mr Peter Shore, who has been courageously outspoken in his views on the dangers facing the party from extremism, shot to the top of the poll. Mr Hattersley and Mr Varley probably suffered from the defection of former supporters to the SDP, but each remains a strong and credible candidate. The success of Mr Neil Kinnock in receiving a substantially increased vote is certainly significant. Being from the left but not the hard left, he has skilfully maintained popularity both in Westminster and in the constituencies: that is a qualification which is rare and may be extremely valuable when the party turns to a new generation for leadership. The ability is clearly still there but whether there will still be a recognisably *democratic* Labour Party worthy to lead is less sure.

THE BANKS' PROTECTED STATUS

It is ironical that at the very time that the Campbell Committee is recommending a *root-and-branch* liberalization of banking controls in Australia, the British government is considering legislation to stop foreign take-overs of British banks and to tighten formal controls here. The proposals for legislative action are, in fact, something of a sham. As a furious Foreign Office and Trade Department have quickly pointed out, *such legislation* would risk speedy retaliation both from the United States, where British banks have been enthusiastically pursing a string of major take-overs, and from the EEC as contrary *to* European rules. Not even the Bank of England, the proposers of legislative action, really want formal rules on take overs. What *they* are anxious to do is to preserve a system of discreet control which they feel has been broken by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's unsolicited bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The Bank of England's case is a traditionalist one. Supported by some although not *all* of the Treasury, *it* believes that banking forms a special part of the British economy. The banks, it is argued, are the essential instruments by which government can exercise fine tuning on the *money* supply, can encourage industrial lending and rescue operations, and can moderate various trends in the economy, for example if personal loans should seem to be growing too fast. Allow the entry of foreign banks and the Treasury and Bank of England would *lose* this form of discreet control and lay themselves open to the kinds of problems that arose over the freezing by the United States of Iranian deposits.

The critics of this line, and they *include some Treasury* Ministers as well as the Foreign Office, retort that banks should not be made a special case. Not only does nationalistic control threaten relations with our trading partners, but it also keeps the British banking system a closed community protected from new competition. Even if *the clearers were left com*pletely unprotected, it is difficult to see many of them falling into foreign hands considering the size of the banks' assets. Lloyds alone would require as much as £1.5 billion to take it over.

It is hard, on the basis of free trading principles, not to sympathize with the latter *view. No customer of* British banks — facing Saturday closing, equal interest rates and often poor service at the counter — can believe that British banks would not be better for competition. The likelihood of a sudden surge of takeovers is not great. Should it *happen* for *peculiar* reasons, the Fair Trading Act could be relatively easily changed to ensure a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

It is the question of control that is more thorny. To an extent this problem too can be exaggerated. Under ordinary *circumstances, no bank work*ing within Britain would willingly upset the Bank of England's wishes. In extraordinary circumstances — as in the Hongkong bid and numerous battles between the British clearers and the Governor over merchant bank takeovers — it is not always apparent that the Bank of *England is right* and the others wrong. But, to the extent that control is a problem, it is probably best dealt with by tightening the formal rules allowing government intervention which all banks, British or foreign, would be expected to obey rather than refusing entry to foreign banks on the basis that British *banks behave better.*

The Government should not be afraid of more open controls on the banks' lending, if it feels this is essential. What it should beware of is getting hustled by the Bank of England into legislation or actions that are contrary to its philosophy in general and the interests of the consumer in practice.

Civil Service reforms

From Mr John Garrett, MP for Norwich, South (Labour)

Sir, Peter Jay's criticism (November 16) of *Peter Kellner's* article on the Civil Service Department (November 13) shows no understanding of the problems involved in implementing the Fulton report. The Fulton committee found, on the basis of detailed research into the management of the Civil Service, that the Treasury had perpetuated an administrative system based on an Oxbridge arts graduate elite which was unfamiliar with social or technical analysis and which treated "management" as a second-rate activity for inferior classes.

A reform which required a new top management group, new accounting and planning systems and new training and personnel management methods could not have been carried out by the Treasury. The fact that most of these changes did not happen simply shows that the CSD could never establish its authority because top administrators did not *allow it to do so and ministers* did not care about the matter.

As for the wisdom of the present Prime Minister in restoring to the Treasury "unified and purposive responsibility for the management of public sector resources", what she has actually done is to put pay in the Treasury and industrial relations in the Cabinet Office, manpower control *in the Treasury* and efficiency in the Cabinet Office. This is less unified than in 1965 and is surely more a reaction to the Civil *Service strike* than to any wish to see that the Fulton proposals are purposively implemented.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GARRETT,
House of Commons,
November 16.

Bad temper value

From Mr T. H. Cobb

Sir, Extravagant displays of bad temper on the court or field are beginning to appear to be caused less by lack of self-control than by appreciation of their box-office value.

The radio has commented that they make tennis more exciting to watch, and on November 17 your correspondent in Perth devoted 76 per cent of his article on the last day of the Australia v Pakistan match to the Lillee affair, and only 24 per cent to cricket.

Your faithfully,

T. H. COBB,
Parkgate Farm,
Framlingham,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk.
November 18.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New Testament precept on human life

From Mr Malcolm Muggeridge

Sir, As a working journalist over the last half century, sometimes in an editorial capacity, contributing one way and another to a great variety of publications, and holding forth rather freely and often on radio and television, both in this country and abroad, I thought I had developed a kind of pricking in my thumbs in the *presence* of anything in the nature of contempt or libel. No such warning signal manifested itself when I was asked, and readily agreed, *to do* a piece on the, as I see it, truly appalling consequences of coming to accept the principle of euthanasia in *getting rid of unduly handicapped* children before or after birth, and the debilitated old.

As it happened, a case involving this principle was being heard at the Leicester Crown Court; I knew nothing of it at the time and had not been following its proceedings. It came, therefore, as a great surprise to learn that the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, was seeking to bring a committal order against the editor of the *Daily Mail*, the newspaper in which my article appeared, *on the ground* that its publication was alleged to have "created a substantial risk that the course of justice in the trial would be seriously impeded or prejudiced".

All, in fact, the article did was to *expound* the case, accepted by Christians for centuries past, against legalizing abortion and euthanasia. If such an exposition does indeed impede the course of justice, then, it would seem to me, still more does the New Testament which, in words infinitely more persuasive and beautiful than mine, presents the same arguments and reaches the same conclusion. Surely, then, the Attorney General should seek a permanent injunction preventing the printing, publishing and circulation of the New Testament if he wants to be sure that future legal proceedings involving abortion and euthanasia are unimpeded and unprejudiced.

The occasion of writing the article in question was to support the candidature in the Croydon by-election of Marilyn Carr, a highly intelligent and vivacious lady who was born without any arms, but who has managed none the less to create for herself a full and useful life. Thus she was in herself a powerful argument for the pro-Life cause and, although she polled only a very few votes, managed to raise a real issue as distinct from the fantasies in which the representatives of the three major parties trafficked.

I liked particlarly one point that she raised: that though *she* was herself admittedly handicapped by having no arms, plenty of MPs seemed to manage quite well in the *House of Commons despite* the handicap of having no brains. The action taken by the Attorney General gives an extra bite to this *observation.*

Yours, etc,
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE,
Park Cottage,
Robertsbridge,
East Sussex.

Where the university cuts fall

From Professor K. W. Cattermole

Sir, Under the heading "Ironies in the economics of cuts", November 17, you printed Professor R. C. Smith's demonstration that, while the University Grants Committee claims to be increasing places in engineering, a decrease is actually being imposed. Perhaps an even greater irony is that, under the present regime, engineering subjects of current economic importance are suffering worse-than-average loss of resources.

The mechanism is simple. Even those universities which have been spared the heaviest cuts have been so hard hit that rational planning is impossible. Anything that can readily be cut is being cut, whether it makes sense or not. So, almost everywhere, posts are frozen: if a member of staff leaves he is not replaced. Universities can't afford to employ their staff, and in the absence of any provision for redundancy compensation they can't afford to dismiss them either. In consequence, so-called "natural wastage" has to be a component in every university's *survival plan.*

But, of course, natural wastage does not strike evenly. It is concentrated in those departments *whose staff have skills in demand* elsewhere. This includes (if it is not confined to) those now facing the heaviest demands from *vocationally-oriented students* and *their potential employers.* I know from recent discussions with university colleagues around the *country that* this mechanism is hitting the field of information engineering particularly hard. While university student/staff *ratios are typically 10 to 11* on average, most departments specializing in electronics, computing and communication engineering *are already suffering ratios of 15 to 18* and some are even worse. The full effect of the current round of cuts is yet to come. If this trend goes any further departments in these valuable fields will begin to collapse even before their parent universities go *bankrupt.*

Apparently the Government and the UGC are celebrating "Information Technology Year" *by* decimating those university departments best able to contribute to the subject. I can hardly believe that this is the explicit intention of either body. But it is the logical and foreseeable outcome of their current actions; and neither has done anything to avert it.

Yours faithfully,
K. W. CATTERMOLE,
University of Essex,
Department of Electrical Engineering Science,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester.

From Mr P. L. Mott

Sir, In your leader this morning (November 18) you say that dons "have no moral claim to exceptional compensation not available to their colleagues in polytechnics or schools". This is simply wrong, Sir, for we do have just such an exceptional moral claim arising from our contracts. For contracts are promises and men should keep their promises. We, unlike schoolteachers, were promised lifetime *employment* subject to good behaviour. That promise is the basis of our special moral claim.

It is arguable that such contracts should never had been granted; it is arguable that had they not been granted then we should have had no claim not available to others in the teaching profession. But they were, and we have.

Yours faithfully,
PETER L. MOTT,
University of Lancaster,
Department of Philosophy,
Bailrigg,
Lancaster.

From Dr Anthony O'Hear

Sir, In your leading article today (November 18) you say that the justification for academic tenure is not "job protection in the face of economies, but protection against discriminatory dismissal for unpopular views". The implied *distinction is false, and what you* later call economic blizzards (blowing from where?) can well be as big a threat *to* academic *freedom* as *explicit* ideological pressures.

Departments and subjects in universities are increasingly being *asked to justify themselves* in terms of the contribution they make to the national economy. This form of pressure (reflecting *doubtless the Government's mone*tarist views) clearly favours the technological and the narrowly scientific at the expense of arts and social sciences. Such thinking is also reflected by the UGC's unequal distribution of its cuts.

What all this amounts to in *practice* is that appeals to economic reasons are being used to squeeze just those areas of universities where mature and disinterested reflection on cultural and social matters is what is aimed at, and which is surely a large part of the reason for institutionalizing academic freedom in tenure for dons. If academic freedom means anything at all, it must mean the chance to continue untimely work, however the untimeliness is defined.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY O'HEAR,
University of Surrey,
Department of Philosophy,
Guildford,
Surrey.

Scottish divorce

From the Secretary of the Scottish Law Commission

Sir, Your recent report (November 6) and leading article (November 7) do less than justice to the Scottish Law Commission's report on financial provision on divorce.

The commission's key recommendation is that financial provision on divorce should be governed by five principles:

(a) There should be fair sharing of matrimonial property — generally, property acquired, otherwise than by gift or inheritance, during the marriage but before the final separation. There would be a norm *of* equal sharing, but this could be departed from in special circumstances.

(b) There should be due recognition of contributions made by one spouse for the economic benefit of the other, and of economic disadvantages suffered by one spouse in the interests of *the other or of the family.*

(c) There should be fair sharing of the economic burden of child care after the divorce. Any financial *provision under this* head would be in addition to maintenance for the children.

(d) There should be fair provision *for an adjustment to* independence, over a period of not more than three years from the divorce.

(e) There should be fair provision *for relief of grave* financial hardship if it is established at the time of the divorce that this is likely as a result of the divorce. Hardship arising from supervening events would not be the responsibility of a former spouse.

The suggested three-year limit to periodical allowances after divorce would be subject to an exception in relation to principles (c) and (e), and would be without prejudice to the court's power in all cases to award a capital sum payable by instalments. The recommendations do, therefore, provide for the two cases men*tioned in your leading article* — the wife with young children and the wife who has sacrificed her career for the sake of her family.

The commission's recommendations on the vexed question of conduct are also more sophisticated than is suggested in your report. Conduct would be irrelevant, unless it had affected the economic basis of the claim, in relation to the sharing of matrimonial property, the recognition of contributions or disadvantages, or the sharing of the burden of child care. It would be relevant in relation to a claim based on short-term adjustment or the relief of grave financial hardship, but only if it would be manifestly inequitable to leave it out of account.

The last qualification is designed to discourage the raking up of trivial incidents.

Yours faithfully,
R. EADIE, Secretary,
Scottish Law Commission,
140 Causewayside,
Edinburgh.
November 9.

Growing pressure on the prison service

From the Chairman of the Howard League for Penal Reform

Sir, The Governor of HM Prison, Wormwood Scrubs, Mr John McCarthy, is uniquely qualified to point to the substantial risk that the prison population may be increased by the Government's policy to introduce in the forthcoming Criminal Justice Bill the partially suspended sentence.

When the prison *service* is rightly expressing in public its deep concern about the inhumanity of prison conditions it *is no time to experiment* with dubiously effective sentencing powers of the courts. Other surer methods of coping with the *intolerable burden of the prison* population must be sought.

Mr McCarthy prefers the alternative proposal (but now *dropped*) by the Home Secretary, of introducing automatic release on licence for short term prisoners. While this proposal would undoubtedly reduce some of the pressure on prison accommodation, it will not go far enough.

On December 8 the Howard League for Penal Reform is publishing its thorough review of parole in which it proposes sweeping changes in the release of prisoners on licence. We hope that publication of this report will be a timely help towards suitable provisions appearing in the Criminal Justice Bill.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
Chairman,
Howard League for Penal Reform,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.
November 19.

From the President of the Methodist Conference

Sir, I imagine I am not alone among your readers in being deeply impressed by the *cri-de-coeur* you publish today (November 19) from Mr John McCarthy, the Governor of HM Prison, Wormwood Scrubs. He writes as a man of moral integrity, driven by both humanity and exasperation to protest at the intolerable position in which he and his staff are placed by the gross overcrowding of our prisons. He is rightly concerned about the dehumanizing effects of a regime which pens men in like cattle, two or three to a cell.

It seems clear that only the strongest personal conviction can lead a responsible governor to refer to his prison as "a large penal dustbin" or "a society that debases". My knowledge of prison conditions, through pastoral experience in the West London Mission, and through the prison agencies of the Methodist Church, leads me to give the strongest support to what Mr McCarthy has written about the appalling congestion of our prisons and the inadequacy of the latest proposals for relieving it.

In writing as he has done Mr *McCarthy* has exposed *himself* to administrative and governmental wrath. I hope there will be no attempt to silence *him* or to *anaesthetize his criticisms. In my* judgment, we need to take very seriously his desperation, his criticisms, and his proposal for *reform.* His letter *should* strengthen the hand of all who seek more effective measures to reduce the prison population, including, most notably, the hand of the Home Secretary himself.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN A. NEWTON, President,
The Methodist Conference,
Methodist Church,
Kingsway Hall, WC2.
November 19.

Plans for tax reform

From the Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue

Sir, Your leading article today (November 19) implies that the Inland Revenue have opposed the Government's proposals for tax reform because of officials' "vested interests", and that the Government had to win a battle with the Revenue over implementation of computerization of PAYE. There is no foundation for *either of these statements.*

The Revenue have assisted present ministers to carry through major reforms; as you *must know*, the 1980 and 1981 Finance Bills were two of the longest on record. You should also have known that the Revenue *is on record as favouring com*puterization of PAYE even before this Government came to power.

We published a report on March 29, 1979, on possible future developments in PAYE and said in a covering press release:

The Revenue are making plans to computerize PAYE: they hope this will be feasible at an acceptable cost. Computerization will make the Department more efficient and will provide a better service for the public.

I regret that *The Times* should have *lowered its standards to the* extent of including in a leading article an unsubstantiated innuendo, which — so far as the reference to computerization *is* concerned — you, as a recipient of our 1979 press notice, were in the best possible position to know was totally unfounded.

Yours faithfully,
L. AIREY,
The Board Room,
Somerset House, WC2.
November 19.

Women deacons

From the Archdeacon of Durham

Sir, *May I correct* an impression which your readers may have obtained from the report of your Religious Affairs Correspondent *(November 13)* on women deacons in the Church of England?

The General Synod had before it a motion with four amend*ments, three of which* were concerned with ways by which (and speeds at which) the desired end could be reached. One of *these amendments attracted* a 37 per cent vote; the others were defeated without the need of a count. None of these amendments *(to quote your Correspondent)* "became a rallying point for opponents", of whom there were singularly few.

Mr Longley's "question-mark" must be written in such small print that he is the only one to see it. What he did not tell your *readers* was *that the substantive* motion to seek legislation for women to become deacons in holy orders was carried by so over*whelming* a majority that no count was needed. The Synod showed *its* mind with indisputable clarity (89-90 per cent).

Now let us get on with implementing the *will* of Synod and then move to the much more important task of persuading clergy to admit women to the ranks of the priesthood.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PERRY,
7 The College,
Durham.

Ombudsman's role

From the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration

Sir, Complaints against the police are none of my business, my role as Parliamentary Commissioner being to investigate complaints against central government departments. But I would not wish your readers to misunderstand how that function *is* carried out.

I do not, as the Chairman of the Police Complaints Board (November 16) suggests, "rely on departments to investigate and answer allegations of maladministration in the first place."

It is true that the Parliamentary Commissioner Act requires *me* to invite comments from the principal officer of the department concerned on the allegations made against them. I *trust* that the Police Complaints Board likewise invites the persons complained about to speak in their defence. But thereafter *the* investigation into the complaint is entirely conducted by the officers on my staff on my instructions and in accordance *with* whatever procedure I consider appropriate in the circumstances of the case.

Yours faithfully,
C. M. CLOTHIER,
Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,
Church House,
Great Smith Street, SW1.
November 18.

Exco's economics lesson

From Mr M. R. Weale

Sir, After Cable and Wireless and now the Exco affair can any one still seriously believe that M3, the stock of money, is supply determined? £2,000m of money, or nearly 3 per cent of the money supply was *subscribed* to Exco. And there is no evidence that this was obtained by selling other shares since the stock market has been *generally* firm.

High short-term interest rates encourage investors to hold money waiting for something speculative to turn up. An increase in the relative attractiveness of other assets, and thus a reduction in the speculative demand for money, is achieved by lowering rather than raising short-term interest rates.

If deposit accounts yielded only 5 per cent investors would be unwilling to stay liquid in the hope of a new Exco appearing because the costs of liquidity would be so much greater.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. WEALE,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Applied Economics,
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge.

Spring tide candidate

From Sir Colin Buchanan

Sir, Let no one imply that our *redoubtable Lieutenant-Com*mander Boaks is a crank (your leader, November 16)! Many years ago, when I was an inspector in *the old Ministry of Housing* and Local Government, I was required to hold a public inquiry at County Hall into an appeal by the Commander against the refusal of the London County Council to grant him permission to moor a battleship and a frigate in the Thames in the heart of London.

That there were problems cannot be denied, I recall the spirited argument between the Commander *(himself a master* mariner) and the master mariner of the Port of London Authority about the navigational difficulties *of actually* getting the *huge* battleship up the river. Was there enough water or wasn't there?

Nor did the Commander's plan to drop the central spans of London Bridge, Southwark Bridge and several others into waiting barges, and then to fill the gaps with Bailey bridges after the great ships had passed through, entirely escape criticism. But cranky? Certainly not! Here was a grand idea in the spirit which preserved the Victory at Portsmouth, a vision which surely led to the cruiser Belfast being moored in the river above Tower Bridge. Let credit go where credit belongs.

What was my recommendation to the Minister? Well, you see, the case was prior to the Franks Committee on Administrative Tribunals, so my lips are sealed.

Yours, etc,
COLIN BUCHANAN,
Tunnel House,
Box,
Minchinhampton,
Gloucestershire.
November 17.

Unbalanced books?

From Mr Robin Greer

Sir, Our much-abused Post Office charged me 93p to send a book parcel weighing nearly a kilo to Germany. When payment of £13.43 was sent through Lloyds Bank they charged me £3. Does not this appear rather unbalanced?

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN GREER,
30 Sloane Court West, SW1.



Listen to most cassette decks and you would swear there was still a snake in the works. All that tape hiss and noise just isn't good on the ears.

So Sony have eliminated the sound of the serpent by building a cassette deck which features the new Dolby C noise reduction system.

The advantages of Dolby C are twofold. It reduces noise over a wider frequency range and provides 20dB noise reduction.

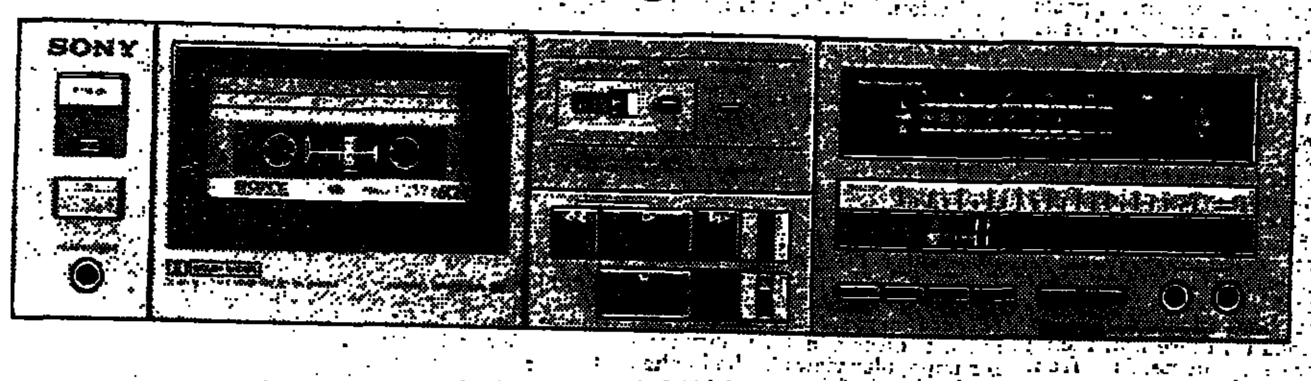
That signals the end of tape hiss.

What of Dolby B we hear you ask? All cassette decks with Dolby C are switchable so there's no need to throw away existing recordings.

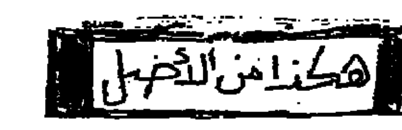
Apart from offering a great performance, the TCFX5C can also offer you an easier life.

It brings music to your fingertips by giving you a choice of optional remote controls; either the RM 50 or the cordless RM 80.

The TCFX5C. You won't hear any hiss but you may hear a few whistles – from admiring friends. SONY.



TCFX5C Price around £165. Demonstrations from Sony Showroom, 134 Regent Street, London W1. Further information Sony UK Ltd, Pyrene House, Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex TW16 7AT. Dolby B/C noise reduction is the registered trademark of Dolby Labs Inc.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 19: Mr Trevor Hughes (Permanent Secretary, Welsh Office) had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Oliver Wright, Sir John Ford, Sir Donald Hawley, Sir Archie Lamb and Mr Terence O'Brien had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon their retirement from the Diplomatic Service.

Lady Wright, Lady Ford, Lady Hawley, Lady Lamb and Mrs O'Brien had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Queen, Patron of the Royal British Legion, this afternoon opened the new Headquarters in Pall Mall, SW1.

Having been received by the Lord Mayor of Westminster (Councillor G. I. Harley) and the President, Royal British Legion (General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson), Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque and was escorted on a tour of the offices by the General Secretary (Air Vice-Marshal C. G. Maughan).

Lady Susan Hussey, Mr William Heseltine and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Queen, attended by Lady Susan Hussey, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson left Euston Station on the Royal Train this evening for Birmingham.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, this morning visited the Council's Offices at Francis House, Francis Street, SW1 and afterwards chaired the Council's Sponsors of Sport meeting at Esso House, Victoria Street, SW1.

Captain Jeremy Wills was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, this afternoon attended a Reception at Buckingham Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh, a Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple, this evening dined with the Masters at the Inner Temple, EC4.

Major John Cargin was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning at Buckingham Palace received the Lord Warden of the Stannaries (the Marquess of Lothian).

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, the Parachute Regiment, received Lieutenant-Colonel D. M. G. Charles upon his relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion.

The Prince of Wales, attended a Board Meeting of the Commonwealth Development Corporation at 33, Hill Street, W1.

The Prince of Wales, Commodore, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, was entertained at luncheon at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge, SW1.

The Hon. Edward Adeane and Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith were in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, this evening presented the Awards of the Royal Aero Club for 1980 at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, SW1.

Major John Winter was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr Francis Cornish, was present at the Annual Dinner of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers at the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, W1.

The Princess of Wales this morning at Buckingham Palace received the Master of the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers (Mr B. H. Westcott) and the Clerk (Mr R. Southcombe).

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 19: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a performance of the film *The Shell House Raid* followed by a Reception given by the Special Forces Club at the Imperial War Museum.

The Lady Angela Oswald, Sir Martin Gilliat and Captain Ashe Windham were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 19: The Duke of Kent, Colonel, was present this evening at the Annual Dinner of the Preston Branch of the Scots Guards Association.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Captain Mark Bullough.

The Duchess of Kent today opened the new South Cleveland Hospital development at Middlesbrough.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 19: The Duke of Gloucester, President, Institute of Advanced Motorists, was present at a luncheon given by the Chairman and Members of the Council at the Automobile Association, Fanum House, London. Lt-Col. Simon Bland was in attendance.

Today is the thirty-fourth anniversary of the marriage of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Bryan Evans, banqueting manager of the Savoy Hotel from 1961-1977, known to his clients as Evangelo Brioni, will be held in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy on Monday, November 23, at 10.30 am. All friends and associates will be welcome.

A memorial service for Bishop Samuel, Bishop of Social and Ecumenical Services, Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate, Cairo, will be held at St Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church, Allen Street, Kensington, London, W8, on Saturday, February 6, 1982, at 11.30 am.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Lionel Heald, QC, will be held at the Temple Church, London, EC4, on Thursday, December 10, 1981, at 4.45 pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. R. Wigzell and Miss M. R. Griffiths
The engagement is announced between Stephen, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. R. Wigzell, of Stanmore, Middlesex, and Rhiannon, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. D. Griffiths, of Wetherby, Yorkshire.

Mr J. C. Parkinson and Miss P. J. Edwards
The engagement is announced between John Colville, son of the late Dr C. F. C. Parkinson and Mrs H. G. Parkinson, of Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire, and Penelope Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. P. F. Edwards, of Broadmead, Gidleigh, Chagford, Devon.

Mr R. Fawke and Miss A. Reekie
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs L. A. Fawke, of Pounsley Manor, Blackboys, Sussex, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Reekie, of Auchenreoch House, Brechin, Scotland.

Mr K. C. Wallis and Miss M. R. Butterfield
The engagement is announced between Kevin Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs Reginald Wallis, of Ware, and Margaret Ruth, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Butterfield, of Broxbourne.

Mr R. F Drew and Miss R. J. Anstey
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs F. Drew, of Epping, Essex, and Rosalind, daughter of the late Professor and Mrs R. Anstey, of Canterbury, Kent.

Dr P. M. Yellowlees and Miss J. M. Isaksson
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs John Yellowlees, of Knutsford, Cheshire, and Josephine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Lloyd Isaksson, of Adelaide, South Australia.

Mr A. J. Whitehead and Miss E. Hawkins
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs J. K. Whitehead, of Ealing, London, W5, and Elaine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. J. Hawkins, of Maidenhead.

Marriages

Mr B. M. Franks and Mrs B. Nicolson
The marriage took place on November 19 between Mr Brian Franks and Mrs Bridget Nicolson.

The Hon Piers Gibson and Miss M. Walters
The marriage took place yesterday at St Mary's, Cadogan Street, between the Hon Piers Gibson, youngest son of Lord and Lady Gibson, of Penn's Rocks, Groombridge, Sussex, and Miss Melanie Walters, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Walters, of La Torre, Gavirate (Va), Italy, and Flat 9, 61 Cadogan Square, London, SW1. Father J. Power officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of cream taffeta and she carried a bouquet of cream flowers. Effie, Amelia and Jasper Gibson, Eloise and Caroline Lockwood, Patrick and Beatrice Gibson and Miss Jessica Walters attended her. Mr Rupert Birley was best man.

A reception was held at the Ritz Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Receptions

Musicians Benevolent Fund
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs, were present at a reception given by the Musicians Benevolent Fund at the Mansion House last night to mark the Festival of St Cecilia. The Guests were received by Mr Philip Cranmer, chairman of the fund, and Mrs Cranmer. Miss Moura Lympany also spoke. Miss Marisa Robles gave a recital of music. Among those present were:
Mr and Mrs John Denison, Mr and Mrs Léon Goossens, Mr Ian Hunter, Mr Christopher Hyde-Smith, Sir John Keswick, Mrs Ralph Vaughan Williams, Judge Wrightson, Mr Martin Williams (secretary to the fund) and Mrs P Sharland (deputy secretary).

International Chamber of Shipping
Lord Inverforth, chairman, and the executive committee of the International Chamber of Shipping held a reception last night at Claridge's hotel to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the chamber. The guests included:
The High Commissioner for Australia, the Ambassadors of Spain, Greece, Mexico, Portugal and Sweden, the Secretary-General of the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, past chairmen of the chamber and other maritime personalities.

Luncheons

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain
The Soviet Ambassador was the guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday at the Strand Palace Hotel by the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain. Mr Andrew Walker, president, was in the chair.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Alan Parks, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at Lun

Dinners

Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company
A court and livery dinner of the Coachmakers' Company was held at the Plaisterers' Hall on Wednesday, November 18, at which the Master Mr J. S. F. Hogg, presided. Among the company guests were Mr A. H. Pope, Sir Austin Pearce, Mr James Blyth and Wing Commander O. G. Bunn. Mr B. L. M. Brew proposed the toast of the Master and Wardens to which the Master replied and Mr Pope replied to the toast of the guests which was proposed by Group Captain P. Walker.

Gray's Inn
Yesterday being Grand Day of Michaelmas Term, the Treasurer of Gray's Inn, Mr Justice Croom-Johnson, and Masters of the Bench entertained the following guests at dinner:
Lord Weinstock, Lord Russell of Killowen, Sir Robin Gillett, Mr Justice Cantley, Mr Justice Hutton (Treasurer of the Inn of Court of Northern Ireland), Sir Brian Cubbon, Sir Reginald Verdon-Smith, Mr Moran Caplat, Mr Louis Freedman, Professor Barrington Cunliffe, Dr F Dudley Hart and Mr Denis Marshall (President of the Law Society).

Birthdays today



Mr Alistair Cooke, the journalist and broadcaster, who is 73.

Mr M. C. Alexander, 61; Mr P. K. Archer, QC, MP, 55; Miss Dulcie Gray, 61; Mr Aubrey Jones, 70; Mr Bobby Locke, 64; Sir Rex Niven, 83; Professor Sir Austin Robinson, 84; Sir Reginald Sharpe, QC, 83; Sir William Walker, 76; Viscount Ward of Witley, 74; Sir Edgar Williams, 69.

Pebble Mill celebrates 10 years of lunchtime viewing

By Kenneth Gosling

When the Queen steps out of her car today at Pebble Mill, the BBC's Birmingham headquarters, she will hear the Royal Marines band play "Congratulations" to mark her wedding anniversary. But there will also be a certain amount of self-congratulation, because it is almost exactly 10 years since Princess Anne opened Pebble Mill as a network centre and the base for the highly successful lunchtime magazine programme.

People like Donny MacLeod, the programme's million-mile traveller and regular presenter, call it, not without affection, the Treadmill; it goes out five days a week, nine months a year, without a break and, so far, without a programme having to be cancelled.

Half of today's programme will be devoted to the royal visit; there will be a montage of some of the best programmes that have come from the centre and Vera Lynn will add her musical tribute. The Queen, it is said, watches regularly, as does Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Mr Phil Sidey, head of network production, first hit on the idea of presenting programmes from the mill's foyer, something the experts said would never work. The Sidey view, prevailed. It was he, according to Pebble Mill legend, who emptied a basket of memos over the head of the executive who complained the most and told him to get on with it.

Many programmes, radio and television, come from the Birmingham centre; but the essence of *Pebble Mill at One* is that it is live. Mr Sidey said: "The great thing about television, like religion in the old days, is that it is a shared experience".

Mr Peter Harcombe, editor of the programme, agreed. "We are a bit of a national institution", he said. "But it would be easy for a programme that does not change to go backwards. There is a danger of becoming too cosy, too 'living-room'."

No other television programme has the outside working area, five acres, that exists at Pebble Mill. They have built houses, created gardens, and acted as hosts for aerial invasion, from multi-stack parachuting to the Harrier jump-jet.

"We decided from day one that we would have a go; tackle it, whatever it was. It has meant that we have some very flexible cameramen. We have very little rehearsal time and we have to push technology to new areas. But it also means that the public get the impression of casualness, a great sense of making it all up."

It required, Mr Hercombe said, a very special animal to accommodate a live programme each day; regular presenters Donny MacLeod, Bob Langley and Marion Foster have been joined by several casuals. Jan Leeming cut her teeth on the show.

Mr Sidey said that the old feeling that anything put on outside London required either patronage or subsidy had gone.

"The best lighting men, cameramen and makeup people are probably in London, but the best all-rounders are here. The cameraman who does *Match of the Day*, drama and *Pebble Mill at One* has to be a much better all-rounder."

Pebble Mill now provides 10 per cent of BBC television output. Recognition has included a railway engine named Pebble Mill. The engine has pulled a great many passengers; at the mill, Mr Sidey says, there are none.

Mr Neil Robson carrying out restoration work to the Great Gateway at St John's College, Cambridge.

£88,000 for pair of commodes

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's sale of important English furniture yesterday showed that there are plenty of very rich people interested in it. But their taste is quirky; if none of them likes a piece it will not sell.

A pair of exceptionally elegant marquetry commodes, possibly made for the Prince Regent for Carlton House, sold for £88,000 (unpublished estimate £60,000-£80,000) to Asprey. They belonged to the great collection of English furniture of the 1930s, that of Henry Hirsch, and were sold at Christie's from it in 1931 for 1,500 gns.

A set of 10 George I walnut dining-chairs brought £66,000 (unpublished estimate £50,000).

Moving from the grand to the homely, there was another astonishingly high price. A large yew-wood gateleg table dating from the third quarter of the seventeenth century went to Jellinek at £23,100 (estimate £6,000-£8,000).

On the down side there were some surprising failures. A richly carved mahogany side table made for the fifth Lord Leigh by William Gomm and Son of Clerkenwell (for £31 10s in 1764) was unsold at £27,000 (unpublished estimate £50,000). A fine Queen Anne black lacquer cabinet was unsold at £10,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000); a similar, though higher quality, example was sold in New York for $860,000 in October. The sale was 15 per cent unsold.

The Louvre was busy adding to its collection in Paris yesterday. It preempted the purchase of a small Ingres canvas of 1832, "L'epée de Henry IV", at 800,000 francs (estimate 300,000-400,000 francs) or £74,766.

Moreover ... Miles Kington

Legal history was made yesterday when a male defendant pleaded guilty but menopausal. Here is an extract from the trial.

Defence counsel: The charges against my client are basically, my Lord, that he did defraud his employers of £1,500,000 over three years. He admits that he did this, or seems to remember doing this, but must point out that he was driven to it by a serious mid-life crisis.

Judge: A what?

Counsel: Just as women are driven to wild deeds by premenstrual tension, and subsequently are released by the courts, so men suffer in their forties from mid-life crisis, which forces them out of their normal behaviour.

Judge: Three years seems a long time for a bit of impulse fraud.

Counsel: The crisis lasts that long, my Lord. Also, it takes that long to salt away £1.5m.

Judge: Good point. But what is this crisis like?

Counsel: The symptoms are despair over the direction of one's life, worry over one's physical make-up, a sense of alienation from loved ones and a deep conviction that one will never be attractive to girls.

Judge: Sounds like adolescence to me.

Counsel: It is very like adolescence, but without the craving for loud music.

Judge: Well, I don't remember this happening to me in my forties.

Counsel: Nor do I. But science has now established that lawyers have a different life cycle from other humans, and we reach the stage of contemplative old age in our mid-twenties. Lawyers do not have to worry over the direction of their lives.

Judge: Hmm. Does the defendant have a loyal and trusting wife who is prepared to stick by him through thick and thin? It is normal in these cases, I believe.

Counsel: His wife insists on staying with him to help save the marriage. That, of course, puts him under even greater stress.

Judge: Is there another woman?

Counsel: No, my Lord, I am happily married.

Judge: Good. So your client committed fraud because he felt a bit unhappy?

Counsel: He was driven to fraud by a chemical imbalance which deranged his judgment temporarily. Also, he was a bit short of the ready.

Judge: And you are asking me to believe that this is a peculiarly male illness?

Counsel: I propose to call fifty expert witnesses to testify that man's instinct as a hunter, a provider and a senior member of the tribe is severely damaged by society today.

Judge: I have never felt an urge to go out and fill little birds with bits of metal.

Counsel: I would guess that your Lordship's instincts are wholly channelled into being a wise sage of the tribe.

Judge: I see that one of your witnesses is George Melly. I thought he only appeared in cases concerning obscenity or the Surrealist school of painting?

Counsel: Normally, yes. But I think you will find it hard to resist his rendition of "Nobody knows you when your down and out".

Judge: Your client can hardly be said to be down and out. If I find him innocent, as I am strongly tempted to, how do we know he won't go out and have another crisis?

Counsel: My client is now cured, my Lord. He has formed a deep and lasting relationship with the £1.5m, and that has restored him to normality.

Judge: Good. I like a happy ending. Right, on with the show!

The trial continues.

Memorial service

Mr G. Pulay
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr George Pulay was held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street. Prebendary Dewi Morgan officiated. Mr Julian Wellesley, (chairman, Charles Barker Group), read the lesson and an address was given by Mr Paul Bareau. Mr Kyrle Simond read from the works of Marcus Aurelius translated by George Long. Among those present were:

Mrs Pulay (widow), Miss Jessica Pulay and Miss Laura Pulay (daughters), Mr and Mrs Charles Lloyd Pack (brother-in-law and sister), the Hon Lady Sachs (mother-in-law), Mr Richard Sachs (brother-in-law), Mr Roger Lloyd Pack and Mr Christopher Lloyd Pack.

The Earl of Inchcape, the Earl and Countess of Lauderdale, Lord Duncan-Sandys, CH, Lord Remnant (chairman, Touche, Remnant and Company), Lady Kissin, Lord Annaly, the Hon W. Lloyd-George (Kleinwort, Benson), the Hon Julian Sandys, the Hon Edwina Sandys, the Hon Mrs James Maurice, Mr Justice and Lady Staughton, Sir Andrew and Lady Duff-Gordon, Sir Philip Goodhart, MP, and Lady Goodhart, Mr and the Hon Mrs William Goodhart, Sir Brian Warren, Sir William Dale, Prince Yuri Galitzine (chairman, Galitzine and Partners), Countess Emo, Mr S. C. Gibbs with Mr Tim Rathbone, MP, and Mr I. M. Horstead (directors, Charles Barker Group), Mr J. P. Dorriman (company secretary); Mr C. J. Bosanquet (Charles Barker Lyons) with Mr K. H. Payne, Mrs A. C. Heylin, Mr M. M. Arnott, Mr J. Archer, Mr P. J. Bolchamber, Mr A. W. Cardew, Mr J. R. Cole, Mr A. M. F. Culmore, Mr S. H. Gebbett, Mr J. P. Grove, Mr B. F. C. Prior, Miss A. Reynolds, Mr B. R. Walker-Arnott and Mr B. S. Sharpe; Mr A. J. Watson (Charles Barker CBC) with Mr A. J. M. Bayley, Mr C. S. Greening, Mr J. M. B. Hall, Mr D. W. Kennedy, Mr S. C. W. Dixon, Mr R. D. W. Morton and Mr P. Snook; Mr R. C. Braithwaite (Charles Barker Recruitment); Mr Ph. D. Murray (Adgroup); Mr J. A. Black (CB Group) and Mr S. H. Barrow (Ayer Barker).

Mr Charles Douglas-Home (deputy editor, also representing the editor of The Times), Mr Michael Hogg (assistant editor (arts), The Daily Telegraph) and Mr A. William Smith (City editor), Mr John Heffernan (city editor, United Newspapers), Mr Christopher Fildes (financial editor, Daily Mail), Mr Brian Nicholson (joint managing director, The Observer), Mr Patrick Sergeant (director, Associated Newspapers), Mr Ian Watson The Sunday Telegraph).

Mr Michael Codlipp (The Thomson Organisation), Mr Alfred Geiringer (managing director, Universal News), Mr Anthony Kiely (Bankers' Magazine), Mr John S Fairbairn (M and G Group), Mr Ian Arthur (Shell Transport and Trading Company), Mr David Horne (Lloyds Bank International), Mr Julian Richardson (London and Scottish Marine Oil Company), Mr Richard G Spiegelberg (Coopers and Lybrand), Mr Andrew McLaren (Grandfield Rork Collins Financial), Mr George Bull (Institute of Directors), Mr David Wedgwood (I P R Consultants), Mrs Norah Owen (Institute of Public Relations), Mr Robert Holland (Broadstone Investment Trust), Miss J. M. Wallis (Orion Royal Bank), Mr R H N Creswell (Grindlays Bank), Mr John D Warne, (Legal and General Assurance Society), Mr M J Mockridge (Coward Chance), Mr J J Sturges (Association of Investment Trust Companies), Mr Colin McFadyean (Slaughter and May), Mr I J Fraser (Lazard Brothers and Company), Mr C Russell and Mr P J M Manning (Universal McCann), Mr H V White-Smith (Willis Faber and Dumas), Mr Brian P Shaw (Furness Withy and Company), Mr A C Winspear (S G Warburg and Company), Mr W P Howard (Turner and Newall), Miss A Purchase (Wycombe Abbey School), Mr Peter Smith (Advertising Standards Authority and Code of Advertising Practice Committee), Mr Hugh Ashton (J Henry Schroder Wagg).

Mr Owen Hickey, Mr Geoffrey Woolley, Mr Tom Nisbet, Mr Michael Mander, Mr Roger Harrison, Miss Margaret Allen, Mr Tim Traverse Healy, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Stone, Mrs Michael Holt, Mrs Paul Bareau, Mrs Julian Wellesley, Mrs Kyrle Simond, Mr Piers Dixon, Mr Mark Dixon, Mrs L Kolada, Colonel M J Buckmaster, Mr C J Messer (Save and Prosper Group), Mr Walter H Salomon, Mrs Sandra Macleod, Mrs Rivers Bulkeley, Mr R Coudenhove, Miss Celia Heusman, Mr and Mrs Victor Sandelson, Mr G Morwood, Mr Conrad Voss-Bark, Mr and Mrs Christopher Hamilton, Mr James Hamilton, Mr Peter Hordern, MP, and Mrs Hordern, Mr and Mrs Dermot de Trafford, Mrs David Howell, Dr M Stratford, Mr and Mrs John Fisher, Mr and Mrs John Trafford, Mrs David Pitman and Mrs Mel Donald.

25 Years Ago

From The Times of Monday, November 19, 1956

Vienna, Nov 18. — Nothing reflects the utter confusion prevailing in Hungary than this morning's Budapest Radio broadcast contradicting its own statement of three days ago which admitted the deportation of Hungarians to Russia. In today's broadcast Budapest said that rioters, bandits and resistance fighters have been arrested and going to be punished; but as to deportations, "these are inventions being spread by the irresponsible in order to discredit the Soviet Army". According to eye-witnesses, however, and to western observers now in Hungary, several thousand young men have been caught indiscriminately and crowded into trains bound for Russia.

OBITUARY

MR HUGH LLEWELLYN JONES

Preservation of historic churches

The very Rev S. J. A. Evans writes:

Hugh Llewellyn Jones who died suddenly on November 4, had been the devoted and successful secretary of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust for over 25 years.

During that time he had raised the trust's income from a low level to a total of about a quarter of a million pounds a year. As a fund raiser he was in a class by himself. His energy and his expertise were phenomenal. He knew the terrain; where money was to be had, and how donors could be approached.

Before he joined the trust's office, he had acquired a sound training in business methods and in financial management. The trust benefited greatly from this, and his evident efficiency joined with his infectious enthusiasm gave subscribers confidence that their gifts would be well used. He had the accurate mind and retentive memory of a practical man, not of a scholar, though away at the back of him there was always a haunting awareness of a beauty he could not define.

In his extensive knowledge of English churches it was the small, remote and venerable village churches which ranked highest; in helping them he felt he was preserving a shrine.

SIR R. MACDONALD-BUCHANAN

Major Sir Reginald Macdonald-Buchanan, KCVO, MBE, MC, died on November 17 at the age of 83.

He was born in May 1898 and joined the Scots Guards from Sandhurst. He gained the MC during the First World War and retired from the army in 1926. He rejoined the Scots Guards in 1939 and from 1940 to 1943 was ADC to Field Marshal Sir John Dill. He served with the BEF in France, at the War Office, and was from 1941 to 1943 with the British Joint Staff Mission in Washington. He was appointed MBE in 1942. After D-Day he served in France and Belgium and was mentioned in dispatches.

He was chairman of James Buchanan & Co Ltd and of W. P. Lowrie & Co Ltd, from 1939 to 1970, and had been a director of Buchanan-Dewar Ltd and of the Distiller's Co Ltd.

From 1949 to 1959 he was a member of the Racecourse Betting Control Board and he was a Steward of the Jockey Club from 1950 to 1952. He had also been president of the Hunter's Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society. He was a Master of the Worshipful Company of Distillers. From 1934 to 1939 he had been Joint Master of the Pytchley Hounds.

He was a Deputy Lieutenant for Northamptonshire and had also been High Sheriff of the county. He was appointed CVO in 1952 and created KCVO in 1964.

He married, in 1922, the Hon Catherine Buchanan, daughter of the First Baron Woolavington, GCVO. They had two sons and two daughters.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL G. BALLANTYNE

Air Vice-Marshal Gordon Arthur Ballantyne, CBE, DFC, who was Director of Dental Services, RAF, from 1943 to 1954, died on November 7. He was 81. Gordon Arthur Ballantyne was born in 1900 and educated at King's College School and the London Hospital.

During the First World War he served in the RNAS and RFC before transferring to the RAF in 1918, in which year he gained his DFC.

He gained his LDS and RCS in 1923 and joined the Army Dental Corps in 1924, transferring to the RAF Dental Branch in 1930.

His promotion thereafter was rapid and during the earlier part of the war he was, as a Group Captain, Training Officer (Dental) before being appointed Director of Dental Services in 1943. He was promoted Air Vice-Marshal in 1952. He was Hon Dental Surgeon to King George VI from 1945 to 1952 and was Hon Dental Surgeon to the Queen from 1952 to 1954, in which year he retired.

He was appointed CBE in 1945.

He was twice married, first in 1925 to Brenda Muriel, daughter of the Rev Bernard Cuzner. There was a daughter of this marriage. His second marriage was in 1945 to Rachel Mary, elder daughter of Francis Reid Brown.

MR W. S. JONES

Mr. W.S. Jones, CBE, who died in hospital in Windsor on November 9, was a builder who had made a considerable contribution not only to the art of building but to the administrative infra-structure that guides and supports a process that does not become less complicated with the passing of the years. He filled with distinction a number of posts, not least as president in 1963 of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers. He was 67.

William Stephen Jones, born on December 26, 1913, was apprenticed on leaving school and when 18, joined the firm founded in Maidenhead by his father, John Markham Jones. He became a director in 1943, managing director twelve years later and chairman of J.M. Jones (Holdings) in 1969.

His interests spread into heating, development and large-scale housing in the Home Counties but also in Paris where he was president of Markham Fonciere S.A. Apart from a successful presidency during a difficult period of the builders' federation, "Bill" Jones brought a shrewd, civilized mind to the Housing Corporation (of which he had been a member since 1964) and to the Agrément Board, which does good work in assessing the performance of new building materials and techniques. It gave him much pleasure that his firm was entrusted with the design and construction of the stressed-skin plywood hut for one of Sir Edmund Hillary's scientific expeditions in the Everest area.

He was a member of council of the Chartered Institute of Building, and was made C.B.E. in 1965.

He married in 1938 Joan Reach; she survives him with their two sons.

VEN BERNARD PAWLEY

The Right Rev. J. R. H. Moorman writes:

I read, with great appreciation, your excellent obituary of B. C. Pawley. There is one thing, however, that I should like to add to it, and that is his close and intimate friendship with Pope Paul VI.

This began in 1956 when Montini, as he then was, invited six Anglicans to stay with him for a week in Milan to learn about each other. Pawley was one of the six chosen to go, and struck up a friendship with Montini which lasted until he died in 1978.

We saw a good deal of Montini during the first session of the Vatican Council and had him to dinner one night at the Pawleys' flat in Rome.

When he became Pope, Pawley used to go fairly regularly to see him, and they corresponded sometimes, the Pope writing long letters in his own hand — a very unusual thing. The better relations now existing between Rome and Canterbury owe a lot to the friendship between Bernard Pawley and Pope Paul VI.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev D. R. MacInnes, Diocesan Missioner in the diocese of Birmingham, to be also Honorary Canon of Birmingham Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev. B S T Morgan, Rector of Kessingland, diocese of Norwich, to be also Priest in Charge of Gisleham, same diocese.

The Rev G E Nicholson, Priest in Charge of Potter Heigham and Repps with Bastwick, diocese of Norwich, to be also Priest in Charge of Ludham, same diocese.

The Rev J K Oliver, Team Rector in the South Molton Team Ministry, diocese of Exeter, to be Team Rector in the Central Exeter Team Ministry, same diocese.

The Rev I F Marsh, Vicar of St Aubyn, Devonport, diocese of Exeter, to be Team Vicar designate in the Sampford Peverell Team Ministry, same diocese.

The Rev J D Pigott, Vicar of St Michaels, Boldmere, diocese of Birmingham, to be also Honorary Canon of Birmingham Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev S J Pimlott, Asst Curate of St John, Walworth, diocese of Southwark, to be Vicar of St Benedicts, Small Heath, diocese of Birmingham.

The Rev D L A Place, Curate of Stainton, Cleveland, diocese of York, to be Team Vicar in the Major Parish of Loughton, diocese of Chelmsford.

The Rev J M Potter, Vicar of the United Benefice of Kettlewell with Conistone and Hubberholme, diocese of Bradford, to be Rector of Somersham, Offton, Flowton and Willisham, diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

Canon R Stevens, of York Road, Southwold, Suffolk, to be part-time Priest in Charge of Barnby and North Cove, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev P Streat, Asst Priest of St Barnabas, Heaton, diocese of Bradford to be Asst Priest of St Denys, Evington, diocese of Leicester.

The Rev N W Taylor, Vicar of Holy Saviour, Tynemouth, diocese of Newcastle, to be also Rural Dean of Tynemouth, same diocese.

The Rev P M Thomson, Curate of St Stephens, Tonbridge, diocese of Rochester, to be Vicar of Cobham with Luddesdown and Dode, same diocese.

The Rev J F White, Vicar of Thurlstone, diocese of Wakefield, to be also Priest in Charge of Hoylandswaine, same diocese.

The Very Rev H C N Williams, former Provost of Coventry Cathedral, diocese of Coventry, to be Provost Emeritus in the same diocese.

The Rev N J B Wilson, vicar Burstwick with Thorngumbald, diocese of York, to be Priest in Charge of Gilling East, same diocese.

University news

Oxford

The following awards and elections have been made:

George Webb Medley Junior Prizes, J A Fairburn, Merton, and A L Payne, Lincoln; Pusey and Ellerton Fund Senior prizes for meritorious performances in biblical Hebrew, T J J Corley, St John's, J R Kessler, Brasenose, Miss D J Sweeney, Brasenose, and R Schraer, St John's.

Grinfield Lecturer on the Septuagint 1982-84, E Tov. Newton-Abraham visiting professorship in medical, biological and chemical sciences, J Roth.

ST HUGH'S: Lectureship in biochemistry, Anne-Marie L Seymour.

ORIEL: Scholarships: P A S Harvey (Wellington); P H James (Abingdon S); J C McTernan, (Firrhill HS, Edinburgh); S R Nattrass (Blacfyne Compr, Co Durham).

Exhibitions: N S Bramwell (King Edward VI, S); D H Carr (Richmond S); C C Wright (Norwich S).

Bishop Fraser Prizes: A W Johnson (Kent C); S Townley (Hulme GS); P C Seaward (Millfield); M Ipgrave (Magdalen CS, Brackley); J C Harles (Wheaton C, Illinois).

Latest wills

Dr Ernest Christopher Benn, of Anglesey, former consultant physician at Seacroft Hospital, Leeds, left estate valued at £544,222 net. He left the island of Welltog, in the Menai Straits, to the National Trust.

THE ARTS

Television

People in cages

With the Borgia bottom-count shooting up, nobody should wonder too much at the sensation-crazed BBC's frantic desire to drag nobler animals down to its level. Last night it was the turn of a mild and thoughtful chap called Jambo, whose most intimate secrets were paraded in close-up.

Jambo is one of the most potent of his race, and in his seed lies its hope of survival. We saw him upended, probed, stimulated, and extracted from. The cameras made a seven-course meal of it, as the humans in green coats waved their liquid prize in triumph.

After giving the cameras a mysterious little smile, Jambo's wife gave birth. Then, in slow motion for our benefit, she gave birth again — crouch, sidestep, lift. She ate the placenta, and then the bloody straw. She was amazingly deft, but in the ensuing hours surprisingly unmaternal. Now the humans made up for it, lavishing every possible paediatric care on the squalling infant.

A former bricklayer's apprentice called Richard Johnstone-Scott treats Jambo with the respect he deserves. He finds him "very honest, very straightforward", and when he greets him civilly in the morning he always gets a civil reply, unless Jambo has something weighty on his mind. Gerald Durrell, who presides over the zoo, is dedicated to saving people like Jambo from the extinction with which humankind has threatened them.

Gorilla G. Gorilla (BBC2) was a bizarre and curiously affecting programme, which at least had the decency not to try to elucidate, through dramatized reconstruction, how Jambo's tiny penis managed to penetrate N'Pongo throuh the bars of his cage.

Besides the felicitous juxtaposition of the above with the best monster movie ever made, Sunday's edition of *Everyman* also has pertinent things to say about our monkey forebears. And coincidence prevails on current affairs as well: last night's edition of *TV Eye* tilled the ground which *Newsnight* had tilled just two days previously.

In The Mafia and the Earthquake (Thames) a gangster king received his courtier's kisses through the bars of his cage. He was one of the leeches who had been bleeding earthquake victims of their emergency funds. Peter Gill's report tracked down another leech, president of his local football club, and travelling by bullet-proof Merc to inspect the scene of his ongoing depredations.

One sees why Italy is such fertile ground for revolution. If funds are dispensed by local authorities, the local Mafia gets them and yet more faulty buildings go up. If the government intervene, their representatives get death threats. Even the Thames crew got threats, for trying to film a funeral. See Naples and die.

Michael Church

Cinema

Melodramatic search for salvation

True Confessions (A)
Screen on the Hill; Gate, Bloomsbury

The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter
ICA Cinema

The End of August (A)
Curzon

The Crazy Horse of Paris (X)
Warner, Classic, Oxford Street

From Mao to Mozart
Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle

Shogun (A)
Empire, Leicester Square


Clash of brothers: Robert Duvall as policeman and Robert De Niro as priest in "True Confessions"

Since John Gregory Dunne adapted his novel **True Confessions** to the screen, it is his own responsibility if the result is more a *Readers' Digest* selection from its complexities than a real recreation in cinema terms. That the whole thing is — again in comparison with the novel — generally somewhat enervated seems more the fault of the director, Ulu Grosbard (who has mostly worked in the theatre), seeing that he has two outstanding actors, Robert Duvall and Robert de Niro, in the leading roles, and a strong supporting cast. In the outcome what could have been a much more remarkable film is simply a melodrama of moderate interest, with its social and moral implications rather ostentatiously embroidered on.

The old movie view of moral conflict was Jimmy Cagney as the hoodlum fallen angel and Pat O'Brien as his priest brother who effect the last-reel, dying-breath atonement. Life is not so simple now. Duvall is a policeman, no more or less corrupt than screen policemen are supposed to be. Now, though, it is the priest brother who is in need of salvation. De Niro is a worldly priest, an ecclesiastical top executive, caring for the church's real-estate wheeling and dealing, and spending less time in the sacristy than at business lunches with the mobster magnates of the city.

The crisis in their relationship is precipitated by an ugly murder — based on a real Los Angeles case of the forties, the "Blue Dahlia" affair. The professional lives of the two brothers clash, with catastrophic results to their worldly careers but perhaps (as a twenty-years-on epilogue intimates) something like spiritual salvation.

If the book had more to offer by way of both moral and social reflection, the film's setting, its portrayal of the corporate operations of a rich church, and some supporting performances (the excellent Charles Durning as a heavyweight building contractor; Rose Gregorio, in private life Mrs Grosbard, as an ageing and tired madame) are compensations.

It is, I realize, straining credulity to recommend as the most attractive and satisfying film of the week, offering a real experience for the money, a feature-length documentary on women munitions workers in Second World War America. I have already written about Connie Fields's **The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter** from a couple of festivals, and have seen it, with increasing pleasure, more times than that. Its outstanding quality is that it is something that could be done in no other medium. A good many documentaries might just as well appear as newspaper or radio features or colour magazine spreads. But *Rosie the Riveter* uses to the full the cinema's ability to recapture intact the look and the sentiments of past times, and sometimes to expose its own previous mendacities.

Connie Fields got the idea for the film from a California "Rosie the Riveter Reunion"; and, with grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and other charitable sources, conducted interviews with many hundreds of women who had gone into war work. Out of these she chose five representatives — three black, two white — all marvellously lively, intelligent, attractive and articulate women who recall their experiences with a mixture of pleasant nostalgia and detached bitterness.

The reminiscences are intercut with the realities of the period — old news films, recruiting trailers, *March of Time* and pop songs of which "Rosie the Riveter" is not by any means the most awful. The old stuff is extraordinarily evocative of the period, of the great surge of emotional patriotism and the propaganda drives that sustained it. The old films show the armies of eager, smiling women working shoulder to shoulder with the men, their babies lovingly cared for in official crèches. A welder's visor is snapped up to reveal the immaculately made-up face of an actress who delivers a tidy script about the fulfilment she finds in doing her duty.

It was not a bit like that, say the actual women, three decades on. The men did not want women, and nobody wanted blacks. Sexist and racial discrimination was virulent; the struggle for unionization and fair wages was met with bullying and lockouts. Families were broken up; they never heard of crèches. Standards of hygiene and safety were terrible.

The women stayed — and stay — cheerful and funny and brave. They needed still more bravery after the war when their jobs had to go back to the men and the official propaganda changed. The films of the time now strove to return the women to their proper roles of cooking and sewing and serving; the government trailers offered horror pictures of the neglected and delinquent children of undutiful working mothers. Women who had acquired valuable skills could only find jobs as kitchen hands or lavatory attendants. But you cannot keep a good woman down. The resilience, spirit and humour of Connie Fields's indomitable heroines sends you out elated and loving them.

The women's struggle is also the theme of **The End of August**, adapted from Kate Chopin's novel *The Awakening*. The book has attracted new interest in recent years, for its early account of a woman battling to establish an independent personality in a male-dominated society (New Orleans around 1900). Chopin was still to an extent a prisoner of her times: the end of the novel, as of the film, is rather romantic defeat than social progress.

The film has all the attractions of a work done with affection, dedication and a will to make the most of limited resources. The most profitable of these resources were the locations, in Alabama and other places, where the film was shot. The film, which is the feature debut of Bob Graham, and is photographed by Bob Elswit, is consistently good to look at, deftly, impressionistically and unemphatically giving a sense of the period.

The shortcomings lie rather in the script and the performances, which simply do not measure up to the subtleties of character and relationship that are admirable in the novel. Paul Roebling is a wooden caricature of the indifferent husband; and David Marshall Grant is in no way a charmer that any woman could die for. Kathleen Widdoes's professional dexterity in a supporting role shows up the inadequacies of the rest. The heroine is played by Sally Sharp, the co-producer and driving force behind the realization of the film. Unfortunately she is far too individualistic to be subdued to the character or the period, and remains obstinately what she is, a confident working lady of the 1980s.

Another (though unintended) tract for feminists is **The Crazy Horse of Paris**, a close-up, frivolous record of that institution, dedicated as it seems to be to glorification of the youthful female bottom. The debasement of the sex is blithely unconscious: the girls of the Crazy Horse are required to have nothing in their heads and few talents beyond the skill to master the limited choreography of the buttocks — "arch", "thrust" or (oh, sacrilege) "à la Josephine Baker".

On Sunday the invaluable Tyneside Cinema has the British première of Murray Lerner's new Oscar-winning documentary **From Mao to Mozart — Isaac Stern in China**. Filmed two years ago, it is a thrilling memorial of the reunion of two cultures long forcibly separated, and of the particular impact of one great artist and resolutely human being.

Shogun is a less illuminating vision of the Orient. It appears to have been bodged together out of episodes from a much longer television series about the adventures of an English navigator in seventeenth-century Japan. Only such provenance could explain the aimless, episodic scenario. Insult is added to the injury it does to memories of the Japanese historical cinema by the humiliated presence of Kurosawa's greatest actor, Toshiro Mifune. One's sympathies go, in like degree, to poor dedicated Richard Chamberlain in the central role. The director was Jerry London.

David Robinson

Theatre

Moral queasiness

Money
Other Place

As a piece of programme planning Edward Bulwer-Lytton's "serious comedy" fits snugly into the RSC repertory as the latest in their sequence of forgotten Victorian hits, and as a genteel companion piece to *Timon of Athens*.

The play itself is unlikely to take on a second lease of life like its near contemporary, *London Assurance*. For one thing, it suffers from the usual moral queasiness that besets attacks on materialism written for the materialist entertainment machine. It is about the triumph of true love over fortune-hunting, but it goes without saying that only the well-to-do are qualified to enter the game in the first place; and that, far from undergoing Timon's experience of actual destitution, Lytton's hero, Alfred, merely pretends to have lost his fortune so as to test out the affections of his betrothed.

Money is not in question here any more than elsewhere in Victorian fiction; the real subject is hypocrisy, and at least Lytton comes clean on that score with a final acknowledgment that the best foundation for an irreproachably idealistic union is plenty in the bank.

Lytton was not kidding in his threat to unleash "real grave passions" into the comic playground; and in the scenes illustrating Alfred's thwarted passions for the high-minded Clara comedy is firmly shown the door. The play exists in two water-tight compartments of romantic melodrama and social satire. Pity the actress who has to say, with a straight face, a line like, "Oh misery, misery, but he shall not perceive it", when her rival is shortly permitted to remark: "The jewels, yes; the drive will do me good."

Whatever symbiosis there may be remains undiscovered in Bill Alexander's production, which thrusts the company up on to rhetorical stilts, exposing every creaking aside and contrived eavesdropping in the melodramatic scenes, and lets them drop gratefully back to earth for the satire. Some of this is as elephantine as an old *Punch* caption, with characters ramming home their joke-identities as "Stingy Jack" or "Deadly Smooth"; but what saves the show is a series of well-organized set-pieces to which Mr Alexander does full justice: the first act reading of a Nabob's will, bestowing butterfly collections and empty bottles on his fawning relatives; a final sorting out of the financial and marital partnerships; and, above all, the club scene where Alfred goes through the motions of gambling his substance away under the gaze of variously interested observers, including his appalled prospective father-in-law. Centre stage throughout the show is a crimson velvet conversation chair, occupied in this scene by the club's oldest member, sublimely unaware of what is going on, and putting in increasingly querulous demands for the snuff box.

Whenever released from clutching his head in Byronic despair, Paul Shelley leads the intrigue at a fine lick, ably partnered by a placidly insatiable Jane Carr and a benevolently morose George Rainstrick, playing a side-kick who has most of the best lines.

Irving Wardle

● The Greater London Arts Association's Young Musicians awards for 1982 have been won by the oboe and piano duo of Douglas Boyd and Michael Dussek, the pianist Jose Feghali, the percussionist Simon Limbrick, the cello and piano duo of Margaret Powell and Michael Dussek, and the bass Mark Wildman.

Thick as Thieves
Theatre Royal, E.15

Two half-shattered walls topped with corrugated iron, framing a waste of burst tyres, battered bollards and the odd crisp packet: Jenny Tiramani's set seems to have no entrance. In fact it does, but, if you think the characters are coming from the audience, it *is* true enough. All round the Theatre Royal are derelict sites, and those lads eyeing your briefcase as you approach the theatre might be Paul and Saff, damned as unemployable and with only the Jam, or wog-bashing, to offer excitement or a sense of fulfilment.

Tony Marchant is still only 21 but he can write so well that you cease to worry about whether his plot situations are plausible or unduly protracted. At least, he can write about this world, these people and this part of town, where if it was not for *Match of the Day* they would not know what grass looked like, where they feel the summer sun is only making guest appearances, on government orders, like the Queen, and where no frustration is spared them (Saff claims he and his wrist are getting engaged). They have nothing to lose: crime and punishment become meaningless when society seems like Borstal.

Jamie Foreman and John Fowler sustain the pace as relentlessly as their two fevered brains, and every detail tells, from Saff's characterization of the police as head boys from Finchley schools whose nurses had girlfriends to his recklessness at being identified because he feels he no longer has a face.

When Mr Marchant starts the action, it works less well. They take two mates round to confront the last personnel officer who turned Paul down and "make his face look like half-eaten trifle". His life of credit cards and weekend walks is realized with the same precision, but David Allister's mannered performance makes him the caricature they think him. But, against all odds, Mr Marchant finds an ending which, as endings should be, is both surprising and inevitable.

Anthony Masters

Interview

Double life in the bass

"I don't think of myself as a bass-player", says Garry Karr. He was born in Los Angeles 40 years ago into a family of seven generations of bass players, has in the last 20 years taken 40 bass concertos into his repertoire, founded an international institute for bass players, and plays himself on Koussevitsky's own instrument, given to him by the famous conductor's widow.

"I'm a singer, not a bass player. When I play the bass it becomes my voice. I studied with singers — Jennie Tourel was probably the strongest artistic influence in my life. I learnt to phrase like a singer. I even put commas in my music where to breathe . . ."

On Sunday, his Wigmore Hall recital will include the *Fantasie Sonnambula*, variations on tunes from Bellini's opera by Bottesini, who wrote 13 operas himself and was chosen by Verdi to conduct the premiere of *Aida* in Cairo. It is not only the lyricism of Bottesini which is so near to Karr's heart, and, indeed, to his own style of playing, but his personality too. "He loved to bring people into the fold that wouldn't normally come to concerts. When touring with an opera he'd buy tickets and give them free to people in the square. And in the interval he'd give entracte performances on his bass to display the virtuoso capabilities of the instrument — and to make people laugh as well."

It is a tale he often tells at his recitals — where audiences always seem to laugh. The high level of sheer performance, even of showmanship, in Karr's own playing, whether in the 90 per cent serious content of his programme or in the wit and elegance with which he projects moments from a more insubstantial pageant, causes not a little embarrassment and hostility from fellow players and critics. Was it just the nature of the instrument that made it so easy for him to perform so extrovertly?

"Well, of course, it's a good excuse. But I love to open up my guts and let them pour out to everybody — it's a kind of emotional exhibitionism, I guess. And I want to talk to the audience as well, to let them know and feel my responses to these composers on every level. We've gone through 50 years of very academic, non-personality performances and accurate recordings as a reaction against nineteenth century performers' excesses and disrespect, and now I think we've reached a point where people are sick to death of it."


Karr the extrovert

Eyebrows also rise at his decision to play transcriptions rather than the comparatively small repertoire of original but inferior double-bass music. "If you play only original music, your standards remain double-bass standards. I want to emulate the best of cellists, pianists, flautists, singers, so that people will forget I'm playing a bass and concentrate on the fact that I'm playing music". His Sunday recital also includes a violin sonata by Aaron Copland who said of his transcription, first heard in Europe this year at Edinburgh, "it is a daring venture, one which only Gary Karr could carry off successfully". Karr's friend and pianist, Harmon Lewis, with whom he has been performing as a duo for 11 years and who is an accomplished organist in his own right, points to the historical precedent in Bach who developed his organ playing from transcriptions of Vivaldi violin concertos.

And Karr is adding to the double-bass repertoire by commissioning works himself. He was working with Henze in the Juilliard School on the composer's *Elegy for Young Lovers*: "I was in love with the piece. It was so lyrical. Henze wrote a neo-romantic concerto for me, but it wasn't as lyrical as I'd hoped because by then he was on to another stage in his development". Wilfred Josephs and Joseph Horowitz have written works for him, "and I'm on Lutoslawski's waiting list — and I'd give anything for Tippett to write something for me!"

Performing is not, though, all there is to Gary Karr's life. He has worked with deaf children and doctors in the University of Wisconsin, has taught class music in state schools, and holds a teaching post at the University of Hartford, Connecticut. "Teaching is something I just can't turn my back on — I've got to make time for it. I keep my foot in the door by going into schools as I travel".

He still finds time and energy for an almost equally absorbing passion: collecting toy carousels, ferris-wheels — and fire-engines. He has one real 1930 Chevrolet engine and a room full of toy models — "they satisfy every aesthetic sense possible!" And then there are antique pocket watches: "My dream is to have a minute repeater. . . ." And his other dreams? "To have an international series of children's music programmes on television — we're working on it. And through that to achieve my greatest ambition of all: to put a double-bass in everybody's home. . ."

Hilary Finch

Concert

Organic solemn tread

RLPO/Atherton
Festival Hall/Radio 3

As her feast day approaches each year, Blessed Cecilia is celebrated by a Royal Concert presented by and given in aid of the Musicians' Benevolent Fund and other associated charities. This year the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were present to hear a specially commissioned *Canzona for St Cecilia* by Edmund Rubbra, inspired by pictures of the saint seated at the organ.

Players from the Royal Military School of Music, conducted by Lt-Col George Evans, who are regular guests at the celebration, did sound remarkably organ-like in this "three-minute solemn-sounding piece" as Rubbra calls it: firm and sure of step, its strong, terse progress towards a fortissimo climax moves through lines of individuated sound drawing out and dissolving back into the texture with all the skill of sensitively selected organ registration.

John Lill was the soloist with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic in Rachmaninov's second piano concerto, a performance in which the orchestra responded brightly and alertly to Mr Lill's tough, plain-speaking, firmly muscular playing, softening the edges of an occasionally overharsh, overpercussive piano timbre with deep-breathed and generous resonances.

Lill could, perhaps, have taken a tip from the warmth of the viola playing in the finale; but David Atherton ensured that an exquisite poise was maintained in the second movement, the pulse caught and flowing easefully between piano and wind soloists, its near-suspended movement flickering only to be warmed into life again at the intuitively right moment.

That same sense of flowing current, of pulsing, malleable energy, shaped and brought into relief by some fine solo and section playing, made one acutely and freshly aware on Wednesday of the sharp originality and daring of idea, construction and orchestration in Sibelius's first symphony.

Hilary Finch

Business News
THE TIMES Friday November 20 1981

The row over foreign banks, page 19

Marathon Oil is rescued by US Steel

By Paul Ellman and Michael Prest

US Steel appears to have rescued Marathon Oil from an unwanted takeover bid by Mobil although US Steel may have to pay more than $6,500m (£3,400m). The deal was seen by many Wall Street analysts as a bargain.

According to announcements yesterday by both parties, US Steel will pay $125 a share, or $3,750m in cash for 51 per cent of Marathon's stock and retains the option to purchase the remaining 49 per cent in exchange for 12.5 per cent senior notes valued at $100 each. This would bring the total value of the merger to $6,650m. Tender offers must be submitted by midnight, New York time, November 28.

Last night Marathon closed 27¼ points up at 104¼ while US Steel fell 2¾ to 28.

Mobil, which is the second biggest American oil company, had offered $85 a share for 67 per cent of Marathon in a takeover proposal valued at a total of $5,300m. Mobil failed to buy Conoco, another American oil company, which was acquired by Dupont,

The arrangements between Marathon and US Steel have been structured in such a way as to make it difficult the fray. US Steel has been for another bidder to enter granted an option to buy 10 million Marathon shares at $90 each. This is about 17 per cent of the equity.

More important, the two companies have also agreed that US Steel should have an option to buy for $2,800m cash Marathon's 50 per cent stake in the Yates oil field in Texas. Yates is the second biggest American oil field after Prudhoe Bay in Alaska,

These reserves are Marathon's prime attraction. It is cheaper for some companies to buy known reserves rather than find their own. US Steel could buy the Yates stake even if it fails at the last hurdle to take control of Marathon. This is a major deterrent to other would-be bidders for Marathon.

Wall Street Analysts said that even at the price announced US Steel was getting a bargain. Marathon's oil and gas reserves have been valued at the equivalent of $186 a share.

Marathon, which is the seventeenth largest United States oil company, fought the Mobil offer on the grounds that a merger of the two corporations would violate anti-trust laws. Marathon also waged a successful public relations campaign claiming that it would lose its corporate identity, and its employees their jobs.

However, its case was weakened by a revelation that it had contacted Texaco with a view to arranging a merger to keep Mobil out of the picture.

US Steel, which was operating at a loss up to two years ago, has returned to profit and, through a drastic programme of closures—affecting 15 of its plants, built up a cash reserve of $3,000m.

Mr David M. Roderick, chairman of US Steel, said the acquisition of Marathon would "achieve the major diversification that US Steel has been seeking".

Mr Harold D. Hoopman, Chairman of Marathon, stressed that the merger would leave the oil company operationally independent at its headquarters in Ohio rather than see it transferred to Mobil's head office in New York.



Keith Waldegrave

Mr Frank Lawson, Telecom's director of inland customer services, with some of the telephones available.

Telecom gears up for the phones war

By Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent

British Telecom will start selling its own telephones in the New Year, ending a rental-only policy that has been followed since the public telephone network was established before the first world war. The sets will be sold in "Phoneshops" which Telecom is opening within high street department stores.

Mr Frank Lawson, British Telecom's director of residential and customer services, said yesterday that the new arrangements were designed to meet the fierce competition expected from private suppliers now that the Government has broken Telecom's telephone monopoly.

According to the liberalization timetable announced on Monday by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Minister of State for Information Technology, private telephones will very soon be approved for connexion to the Telecom network. Hundreds of thousands of unauthorized phones have already been sold and attached illegally.

Mr Lawson also said that from this month, Telecom engineers would start fitting extensions with detachable plugs that slot into a simple new type of socket.

By the middle of next year all new telephones and extensions will be fitted with plugs and sockets, instead of the immobile installation that has been used until now. Subscribers will be able to move telephones freely from room to room, or house to house, as they do in the United States. The cost of three new extension sockets will be £45, followed by a 45p quarterly rental charge.

Five British companies are manufacturing the plugs and sockets. Amphenol, Austin Taylor Electrical, Ebonestos Industries, GEC and BICC-Vero will also make plugs for authorized private competitors.

BL to shed 3,000 more truck jobs

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

BL will today announce an extensive rationalization of its truck and bus subsidiary, Leyland Group. Union leaders fear this may include plant closures and up to 3,000 job losses.

The move has been anticipated since Leyland reported half year losses of £47m, more than two months ago. At that time, Sir Michael Edwardes, BL chairman, warned: "Our fixed expenses are too high and we are overmanned in relation to the current and projected market."

Industry sources last night said the plants on the danger list were the agricultural tractor business at Bathgate, Lothian, the Albion axles and gearbox works near Glasgow and Guy Motors, an old-established truck plant near Wolverhampton.

Leyland employ 3,500 at Bathgate, although only a few hundred of these are engaged in tractor production. Speaking at the Scottish motor show last week, Mr David Andrews, executive deputy chairman of BL and the head of its commercial vehicle operations, hinted that the Bathgate truck business would continue. In the past year, 1,200 jobs have been axed there.

Since Talbot closed its Linwood plant earlier this year with the loss of 5,000 jobs, Leyland has been one of the biggest employers remaining in central Scotland. Its plunge into heavy losses has been a bitter blow for Sir Michael. Until last year, it was traditionally the profitable side of BL. But in the second half of last year it turned a first half profit of £7m into a full year loss of £47m, despite reducing the workforce from 28,000 to 18,000.

The principal cause of the sudden collapse is the disastrous slump in the United Kingdom truck market. It has fallen from 80,000 in 1979 to 61,000 last year and a projected 40,000 this year. This has led to such fierce price cutting by all manufacturers that some are now selling their vehicles at a loss, just to stay alive.

It is particularly unfortunate for Leyland because the slump has coincided with the halfway stage of its £350m programme to launch a new range of trucks.

Anger at proposal to break up company

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

The break-up of BL, involving the disposal of its component parts to the private sector, is proposed in a report which has been received by the Prime Minister.

The report, drawn up by the right wing Centre for Policy Studies, founded by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, drew a prompt and angry response from BL, which criticized the document and attacked many of the statements and assumptions.

The report, copies of which are being distributed among senior ministers, argues for a phased withdrawal by the Government from its involvement in the state owned group.

Representing one year's work by the nationalized industries' study group of the centre—although its authors yesterday admitted to no specialist knowledge of the motor industry—the report suggests that BL should be split into a series of independent private sector type companies with a view to their individual sale.

As a first step the report urges BL to publish separate reports and accounts for each of its subsidiaries so that taxpayers and potential purchasers have more information.

The report approves of the improvements which the company has made in recent years, but emphasizes that the recommendations made by the centre would serve to accelerate and encourage further improvements to prevent BL becoming a permanent state pensioner.

It claims to expose some of the popular misconceptions about BL but the motor group, which today is expected to announce a further wave of redundancies, said last night: "Unfortunately it does nothing of the kind. Instead, it creates a number of new and quite false misconceptions of its own."

In spite of an investment of more than £1,700m by the taxpaper, the report says, the BL leviathan was still a long way from viability. The plan for the break up of the company was designed partly to ensure the future of the British car industry and its components and other suppliers.

In its swift response to the document BL cites a number of more "glaring errors" which it attacked in the report including claims that the company's market share had fallen over the past five years, while failing to point out that BL Cars has improved its market share this year to more than 19 per cent.

* British Leyland: A Viable Future. Centre for Policy Studies. £2.

Profits fall forces Akroyd directors to take pay cut

By Philip Robinson

Directors and senior executives of Akroyd & Smithers, the stockjobbers will take a pay cut this year because of the company's plunge in profits from £20m to £6.8m.

Akroyd says it is maintaining its bonus scheme, but Mr Tim Nixon, a senior partner said yesterday: "Much more modest bonuses will be paid. When you see our remuneration in the accounts it will be rather different from last year."

Last year, most of the nine directors more than doubled their pay from between £35,000 and £60,000 to between £80,000 and £100,000.

Senior employees used to earning as much as £35,000 a year were paid as much as £50,000; and Mr David LeRoy-Lewis in his last year as chairman received an 81 per cent salary increase to £95,832.

But in the year to last September 25 Akroyd's figures suffered from a £1m shortfall on cash owed to them by Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar, the failed stockbroking firm.

Akroyd, which has already received £842,625 of the initial £1.8m owed, expect to get a further 15p in the pound by the end of this year but will have to wait for the remainder until a High Court case due to be heard in April, 1983.

The company lost £1m in the second half and after paying a dividend the retained profits dropped from £6.4m to £1.2m.

Last month, Wedd Durlacher Mordaunt, one of the big five stockjobbers, signalled that times were hard for jobbers when it cut out half time profit-related bonuses for staff. Market rumour put its opening half losses at £8m. The firm has denied the figure but said it had not earned sufficient in the six months to the end of last October to cover both costs and incentives.

Meanwhile, Smith Bros whose year ended last April and has yet to report the effect of thin trading in the London market on profits, are still enjoying salaries which have been lifted on average 42 per cent.

Threat of world trade war

Tokyo, Nov 19.—Japan's fast growing current account surplus was pushing the world towards a trade war, Mr Toshio Komoto, Director General of Japan's Economic Planning Agency said.

Reflecting growing official concern over Japan's foreign trade disputes, Mr Komoto said: "Overseas discontent is rising so high that we are almost on the verge of a trade war".

Mr Komoto told business leaders that discontent in the United States and Western Europe "has been causing a protectionist tendency which might deal a fatal blow to the world economy".

He said Japan's current account was likely to swing into a huge $12,000m to $13,000m (£6,300m to £6,800m) surplus in the financial year ending next March unless the government took swift and effective measures to curb the trend.

Mr Komoto was speaking shortly before the arrival of Mr Donald Regan, the United States treasury secretary, for a two-day visit in which he is expected to discuss the trade issue in talks with Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, and other ministers.

Mr Regan's visit starts three days after the United States submitted to Tokyo proposals for opening up the Japanese market to more foreign goods.

A day after delivery of the proposals for abolishing import tariffs on 29 items such as computers and car parts a special Japanese Cabinet Council failed to agree on fresh measures to resolve the nation's foreign trade disputes.

Japanese industrial leaders have joined the United States and Western Europe in seeking quick government action over the trade surplus, which finance ministry sources believe could reach a record $23,000m this financial year.

The Keidanren, the Japanese Employers' Federation, said yesterday it would formally warn the government by the end of this month that pressure in Western nations for trade protection would intensify unless Japan worked out effective measures.—Reuter.

Exports limits, page 18

Foreign currency deposits up

By John Whitmore

United Kingdom residents greatly increased their holdings of foreign currency deposits last month, according to October banking figures released by the Bank of England yesterday.

The Bank's returns for the five weeks to mid-October show that these deposits rose in value by £960m. About £780m of this represented transactions and the rest valuation changes. This is the largest increase since January.

The switch into foreign currency deposits may simply have reflected a fear that sterling might be about to fall further on foreign exchange markets, even though the pound was looking rather firmer towards the end of the banking month

It may, however, have been a response to the speculation during the period that the Government might have to consider the reimposition of exchange controls. Over recent weeks this fear has subsided and ministers have stressed that there is no intention of rebuilding financial barriers.

While residents of the United Kingdom were switching into foreign currency, non-residents were also moving out of sterling. Non-resident sterling deposits, which have risen in an almost uninterrupted progression since mid-1978, fell by £447m.

Overall, movements on external items offset domestic credit expansion of £1,580m by £469m in total, leaving sterling M3 1.7 per cent higher on the month.

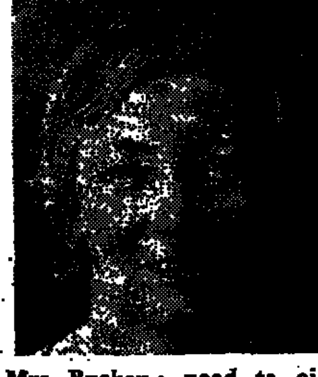
Financial Editor, page 19

Japan training scheme under fire

Mrs Janey Buchan, Labour MEP for Glasgow, yesterday renewed her attack on the European Commission's scheme to train executives in Japan, which she says has cost taxpayers in Europe the equivalent of £2.5m (George Clark writes).

Each trainee was allowed £33,800 over the 18 month training period. This covered full travel costs, a monthly allowance of £1,136 and the cost of language tuition. When they went to Japan trainees also had an "installation allowance."

The £2.5m covers the 73 young executives who have so far taken part in the scheme, 15 of whom were British. Of the 21 who took part in the first course, which ended in March this year, six have joined Japanese companies.



Mrs Buchan: need to aid UK companies

Mrs Buchan said: "We should be throwing all the cash and resources we have into our own hard-hit firms, not helping our competitors. Tories who complain if a pound goes on the rates to subsidize transport should be asking about a scheme like this."

Under the scheme the executives from Europe stay in Japan for 18 months; 12 months on a language course and then six months with a Japanese company.

The industries in which the trainees get work experience are: cars, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, textiles, aero engines, nuclear engineering, electronics, ski bindings, banking, toys, office equipment and ceramics.

Engineering export orders increase by 41 pc

By Rupert Morris

An encouraging rise in export orders for British engineering industries is revealed today in figures from the Department of Industry.

New export orders have increased by 41 per cent in the three months ending in August, with a 7 per cent increase in sales leading to a 14 per cent boost for export order books.

The number of orders-on-hand is back up to a level last attained in 1979, and further improvements are expected in the light of a number of big contracts that have been signed since August.

Heavy engineering has benefited particularly from the export rally, while the home market has remained subdued in spite of a gradual improvement in order books.

The trend of total new orders in the machine-tool industry continued to rise, with sales to domestic consumers in August the highest since November last year.

Mr Ronald Lynch, Chairman of Alfred Herbert, a leading machine-tool manufacturer, said in London yesterday that it was essential for Government and banks to work together to ensure that industries such as machine-tools were given sufficient investment to enable them to survive in the face of Japanese competition.

The world market for computer numerically controlled (CNC) lathes would increase from 48,000 this year to 76,000 by 1985, Mr Lynch said, and if British industry was not careful it would be swamped by the Japanese, who have raised production of CNC lathes from 2,000 in 1971 to more than 12,000. In the same period, their exports had increased from 31 to 6,594.

Stock Markets
FT Index 511.7 up 8.2
FT Gilts 64.62 up 0.65
FT All Share 303.08 up 2.82
Bargains 18,874

Sterling
$ 1.9115 down 30 points
Index 90.6 up 0.3
New York: $1.9025

Dollar
Index 106.5 down 0.4
DM 2.2412 up 42 pts

Gold
$398.50 up $4
New York: $399.6

Money
3 mth sterling 14½-14⅝
3 mth Euro $ 12¾-12⅞
6 mth Euro $ 12⅞-12⅞

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

BPB Ind	10p to 276p
BP	8p to 310p
Brit Aerospace	11p to 194p
Ferranti	15p to 550p
GEC	15p to 744p
GKN	10p to 164p
Lucas Ind	9p to 209p
Metal Box	10p to 156p
Plessey	13p to 336p
Ryl Bnk of Scot	17p to 175p
Shell Trans	16p to 376p
Trust Secs	15p to 325p
Tunnel 'B'	20p to 460p
Ultramar	8p to 488p
Ward TW	18p to 144p

Falls

AGB Research	7p to 237p
Apex	5p to 120p
City Offices	5p to 123p
CRA	6p to 167p
Husky Oil	25p to 520p
MIM Holdings	6p to 182p
MTD (Mangula)	2p to 21p
Martin RP	5p to 315p
Mercantile Hse	20p to 425p
Mixconcrete	5p to 83p
Powell Duffryn	6p to 234p
Renold	3p to 38p
Western Areas	6p to 198p
Western Mining	9p to 221p
W Rand Cons	4p to 83p

Investment doubles

New business figures from the Life Offices Association reveal that lump-sum investments continue to appeal, bringing total sales for the nine months to the end of September to £958m, a 95 per cent increase on the same period last year.

Regular premium business has been relatively quiet by comparison showing only a 20 per cent increase over the same period of last year. The total for the nine months is £686 million, £225m of it attributable to the last three months.

Big deal in Warrington

The Playboy Club of London, at present negotiating a £17m casino and betting shop sale to Trident Television, is to sell six bingo halls to Greenall Whitley, the Warrington-based brewer, makers of Vladivar Vodka, subject to Gaming Board approval.

If the Trident deal goes through, the bingo clubs would have been Playboy's remaining British asset. Greenhall, which has four bingo halls already through its subsidiary, Stanneylands Group, intends to buy more.

☐ Construction orders advanced by 5 per cent during the first nine months of the year compared with the same period of 1980. The sector reflecting the largest increase in work in the third quarter was private industrial building, which surged 36 per cent.

☐ A statement may be made today, according to unconfirmed reports from Bonn, on the controversial export of natural gas from the Soviet Union to Western Europe.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Bankruptcies hit a peak

Bankruptcies and liquidations of companies are still rising despite the Government's efforts to help small businesses (Derek Harris writes). To the end of October, bankruptcies were up 30 per cent on the same period of last year and liquidations by 29 per cent.

There were 530 bankruptcies in October—the highest monthly total so far this year—and 960 company liquidations, Department of Trade returns showed yesterday. It brought the number of bankruptcies so far this year to 4,294 and liquidations to 7,206.

The rate of business failure has alarmed the Association of Independent Businesses, whose 30,000 members are mainly involved with small businesses. Last night, after a meeting of its national council, it called for government action.

The association said that no amount of minor relief for small businesses, or technical changes, could offset the effects of the adverse business climate.

Many more businesses could fail even in an economic upturn because their financial resources had been so eroded by the effects of recession,

Nigg terminal ships its first oil

The first shipment of oil from the Nigg terminal involving the loading of 600,000 barrels from the Beatrice field on board a tanker under charter to Shell was made yesterday.

Production from the Beatrice field began in September and is scheduled to reach a maximum daily output of 60,000 barrels daily. Companies involved in the Beatrice partnership include the British National Oil Corporation British Petroleum Development and Deminex (UK).

☐ Italy's AGIP S.A. State Oil Company anounced an important oil discovery off Egypt, 50 kilometres east of Port Said in territorial waters returned to Egypt by Israel two years ago under the Camp David agreement. It is the first oil found in Egyptian waters.

Estate agents join forces

More than 1,300 estate agents offices have joined forces under the umbrella of a marketing consortium called National Homes Network to provide house buyers and sellers nationwide coverage through a multi-listing service. The scheme becomes operational on January 1, 1982, and brings together Britain's two leading networks, National Network and Home Relocation.

Jobs appeal

In a bid to encourage the employment of disabled people the Institute of Personnel Management is urging the Government to provide grants to help build special facilities or require employers to designate certain jobs to disabled people.

The Institute also calls for the abolition of the quota scheme which it says is outdated.

GKN move on rates

GKN, the big engineering group which is contesting a £370,000 supplementary rates demand has called on the West Midlands County Council to authorize boroughs in the area to retain the 14p precept pending the outcome of legal decisions. The Group made the request in the light of the recent Court of Appeal decision over London Transport fares.

☐ Lord Erroll of Hale, President of the Institute of Directors last night attacked the rates burden on businesses at the institute's annual dinner.

Profits stable

Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of News Corporation, yesterday forecast virtually unchanged profits for the current financial year compared with last year. He told shareholders at the annual meeting in Adelaide the forecast was being made despite substantially lower profits expected for the first six months of the year.

Company News, page 20

☐ The Chicago-based Continental Illinois, the United States' seventh largest bank, cut its lending rate to 16 per cent yesterday, the second bank to do so. In Bonn, the West German

SHELL OIL PROFITS UP BY £33m

Royal Dutch/Shell oil group yesterday announced a £33m increase in third-quarter profits, but the company's nine-month total at £869m was lower than the comparable 1980 profits.

Net income for three months to the end of September rose from £391m to £424m, which was at the upper end of the City's expectations. The shares rose 16p to 376p.

The nine-month income total of £920m compares with £1,789m for the corresponding period last year.

Company directors said that after accounting adjustments, third-quarter net income was some 46 per cent higher than in 1980, and more than double this year's second-quarter total.

The figures reflect increased earnings by Shell Oil in the United States and a significant turnround in the manufacturing, marine and marketing sectors of companies in the group which had been trading at a substantial loss on a current cost of supplies basis in the first half.

Excluding Shell Oil and Shell Canada, earnings in the rest of the group showed an improvement,

Godfrey Davis holds up

Ford's consistent appeal to businessmen and private car buyers has again played a major part in holding up the half-yearly profits at Godfrey Davis, the Ford main dealers, according to Mr Cecil Redfern, group chairman. He said yesterday that the dealerships' car sales have held up well though fleet managers have been shopping around for discounts, and dealers' margins continue to be under pressure. The contract hire and leasing side of the business now represents around 30 per cent of all new car business nationally.

Renold fails to stem pretax loss

Renold, the maker of power transmission and mechanical handling equipment, is still suffering from the general malaise of the engineering industry.

Last year's rationalization programme has failed to stem the group plunging to a pretax loss of £1.45m in the six months to September. This compares with £3.2m last time on sales which declined £7m to £60m in the period. The half-year dividend has been passed again as was the final last year. Nevertheless, there was a glimpse of confidence yesterday with the group's shares rising 2p to 39p.

Higher interest charges at £3.2m compared with £2.8m were the real burden, absorbing any small trading profit made. They reflect the higher rates over the year but the group hopes to have borrowings down by the year end.

Port development

☐ Parsons Brown and Newton, the London consulting engineers have been asked by the Communications Ministry of the Sultanate of Oman to design the first stage of a new port at Sur, for fishery development.

Chubb fire contract

☐ Chubb Fire Security has won two contracts together worth £1.5m for the fire protection of the gas compression facilities being installed on Total Oil Marine's MCP 01 manifold and compression platform.

Rolls strike ends

☐ The unofficial strike by 1,500 craftsmen at the Rolls-Royce aero-engine plant at Hillington, Glasgow, has ended after four weeks. A meeting of workers voted three to two in favour to return to work on Monday.

Mediterranean oil

☐ Italy's state oil company has made an important oil discovery in the El Tina Gulf off Egypt's Mediterranean coast in territorial waters returned to Egypt by Israel in 1979 under the terms of the Camp David agreement.

More Korean ships

☐ South Korea exported ships and maritime structures worth $1,240m (£652m) in the first 10 months of this year, 37.8 per cent more than the 1981 target of $900m. This compares with $515m worth of shipbuilding exports in the same period of last year and $618m in the whole of 1980.

£17m nuclear deal

☐ Pipework Engineering a British Steel Corporation subsidiary has been awarded orders worth £17m by the National Nuclear Corporation for work at the advanced gas-cooled Heysham 2 in Lancashire, and Torness, in Scotland.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	15 %
Barclays	15 %
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crds.	15½%
C. Hoare & Co	*15 %
Lloyds Bank	15 %
Midland Bank	15 %
Nat Westminster	15 %
TSB	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 %

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 13%, up to £50,000 13½%, over £50,000 14%.

Technology focus on computers

Tapping Britain for talent

The Japanese have identified three research groups in Britain whose ideas they are particularly interested in tapping for their awesomely ambitious government-sponsored project to develop a "fifth generation" of computers — machines whose intelligence will "approach that of a human being".

The leaders of the three groups — John Gurd of the University of Manchester, Donald Michie of Edinburgh University and Bob Kowalski of Imperial College, London — find thenselves in an increasingly difficult personal dilemma as members of the Japanese Fifth Generation Computer Committee try to tempt them into cooperation.

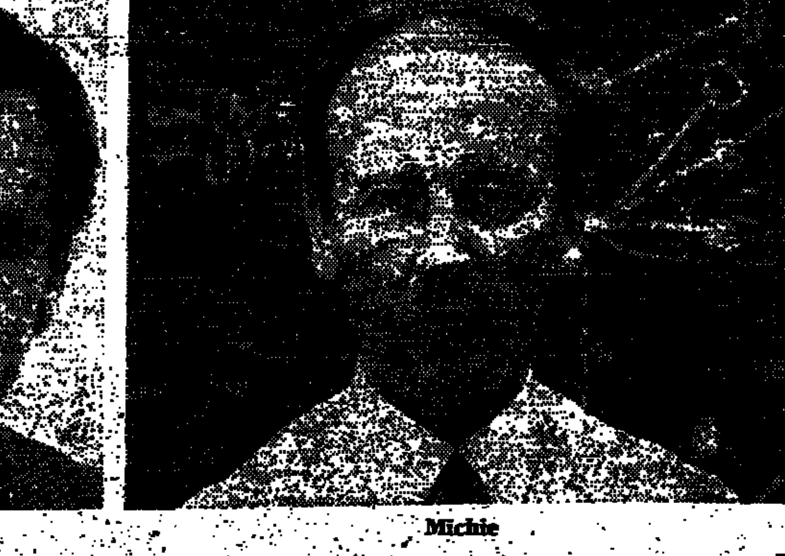
As computer scientists, they are excited by the challenge and grandeur of the project. Professionally, they would love to take part in the creation of a supercomputer which has the conversational skill to talk to anyone in everday language, the power to process information hundreds of times faster than today's best machines and, most important, with "abilities of learning, associating and inferring just like ours," as the Japanese Preliminary Report on Fifth Generation Computer Systems put it.

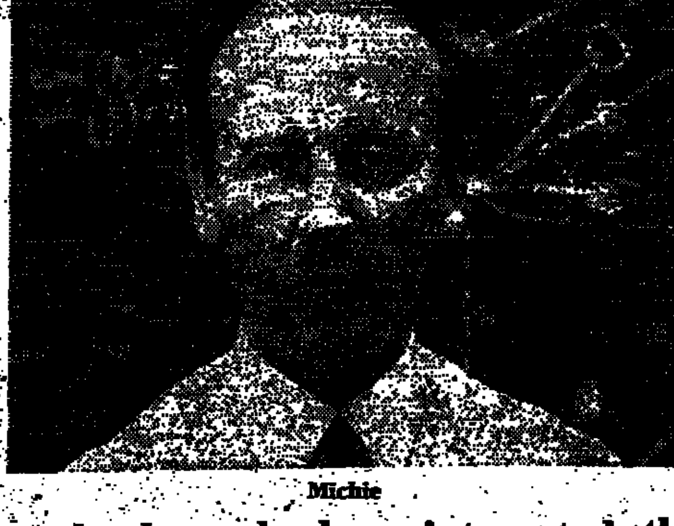
On the other hand, as *Western* scientists they are wary of the Japanese motives in seeking their cooperation. They suspect that, although the Japanese may be keen to exchange information and results now, in the earliest stage of basic research, they will "clam up" later, when they have picked the foreigners' brains and the project is approaching commercial results.

The preliminary report, in which the Japan Information Processing Development Centre sets out the programme's aims in great detail, says quite clearly that it will not be an international project: "It is desirable to execute it as a national project with Japan having the liberty to decide its course ... This effort will not only help our computer industry to foster more creative technology, but will also provide our country with a means of bargaining power," it says.



Kowalski





Michie



Gurd

Research team leaders who have interested the Japanese

Leaders of the three computer research groups are:

Bob Kowalski. An American who has been at Imperial College since the late sixties is working on logic programming. The aim is to programme computers to analyze problems in the same logical terms as humans (as opposed to the conventional practice of contorting problems to suit the machine). The leading logic programming is PROLOG.

John Gurd of the University of Manchester is constructing a data flow machine. That is a computer that uses hardware in parallel, instead of the sequential architecture that is used normally. Data flow promises much faster information processing than conventional systems.

Donald Michie's Machine Intelligence Research Unit at the University of Edinburgh is investigating expert systems. The intention is to give a machine the combined knowledge and understanding of human experts in a particular field — say, in medicine. People could then ask the machine for advice — for example, how should I treat a patient with these symptoms?

Last week Professor Tohru Moto-Oka of Tokyo University, who heads the project, flew from Japan to spend two days in Britain. He told *The Times* the he had come specifically to talk to Dr Kowalski and Dr Gurd about their work. In September he had visited Dr Michie in Edinburgh.

Professor Moto-Oka said that he was still at the preliminary stage of gathering information about work abroad that might fit into his project and of laying the groundwork for formal cooperation links that he hoped would follow later. Prospects for collaboration were better with Europeans than with Americans, he suggested, though some people in Europe were "very suspicious" about his motives.

Meanwhile, the British scientists who have been approached are gently resisting. Professor Moto-Oka's undoubted charm (and that of other Japanese who have made more definite offers of collaboration). They are waiting with growing impatience for the Department of Industry and the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) to answer their appeals to respond to the Japanese project and to give them some guidance.

Last July a group of researchers met privately under the auspices of the British Computer Society to discuss the fifth generation project, whose scope was just becoming apparent. They resolved formally that "at the very least, arrangements for technically informed monitoring of Japan's fifth generation should be set up by SERC and kept in being as a long-range exercise; that SERC urge the appropriate government agencies continually to review the need to match the style if not the scale of the Japanese coordination of industrial and academic research in these areas. . ."

The signatories have not yet received a reply to their resolution, which was sent to the Science and Engineering Research Council nearly five months ago. A spokesman for the Council said this week that it was still being discussed, but he could not say what initiatives, if any would be taken.

Although many computer scientists believe that the SERC should be taking the lead, Dr Kowalski believes that the real responsibility lies elsewhere. "I think the SERC has reacted as best it can to this," he said. "the ball is in the court of the Department of Industry."

The department sent Mr Reay Atkinson, a senior civil servant, to the international conference on fifth generation computers which the Japanese held in Tokyo last month. Mr Atkinson plans a two-day meeting of British computer scientists whose research is most related to the project. The idea will be to increase the coordination between them and to establish a common response to the Japanese requests for cooperation.

But, beyond that, it is not clear whether any government agency or department has serious plans for harnessing the talents of the isolated groups working on different facets of what the Japanese have drawn together and called the "fifth generation computer". (The first generation computer, born in the 1940s, used valves, the second semi-conductors, the third integrated circuits and the fourth, now being developed commercially, uses large-scale integrated circuits.)

Nor have the Department of Industry and the SERC decided whether to increase the funding of computer research in Britain. The early stages of the fifth generation project, involving only basic research, will be fairly cheap — Professor Moto-Oka expects to spend only £25m for the first three years of his project. Later, when it moves on to applied research and development, costs will increase sharply.

Clive Cookson

Japanese doubts on motor talks

Japanese motor manufacturers are doubtful that a regular half-yearly meeting with their British counterparts next week will solve their differences.

Industry officials said yesterday that they were still not prepared to accept a British call for the restriction of exports of light commercial vehicles to an 11 per cent share of the British market.

On car exports, one industry source said: "We've kept our word — for the year as a whole", although he conceded that in some months, shipments had risen considerably.

Some sources expressed impatience with frequent British requests for export restraints, although they said the twice-yearly meetings do continue to serve a purpose.

When the talks open in London on November 24 between the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) and the British Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), small commercial vehicles are likey to be the biggest bone of contention.

The issue was left unresolved after sharp debate at the last meeting in Sapporo, Japan, in July.

SMMT asked Japanese exporters to restrict their shipments so that they would take no more than 11 per cent of the light commercial vehicle market.

The Japanese rejected that request, saying that British manufacturers do not produce any vehicles of their own which compete in that sector of the market.

Japanese motor industry sources say that the situation has not changed and that their light commercial vehicles are not taking sales away from the British makers. they therefore do not see any reason to alter their stance.

One industry source said that an agreement on an 11 per cent market share would represent a departure from the previous format for the bilateral meetings.

Tokyo looks at limits on exports

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Nov 19

The Japanese Government confronted with growing threats of protectionism from Western industrialized nations, has asked senior officials to examine the consequences of restricting exports of cars, colour television sets and machine tools to the European Community next year.

A tentative plan to limit "sensitive" exports to Western Europe was discussed in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry this week after Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, and leading businessmen warned industrialists they can no longer flood this narrow market sector.

Senior officials say the plan is being worked out on the basis of holding exports to Europe at this year's levels.

If it is implemented, the government will also enforce a minimum price on the highly efficient machine-tool manufacturers' and exporters for another year, an official directive which imposes minimum prices on the industry is due to expire this year. A western diplomat claimed tonight: "The idea of forcing machine-tool manufacturers to sell at higher prices for one more year is being contemplated to appease European criticism."

Japanese officials said the plan will be put to the European Community at a meeting of senior Japanese and European officials in January.

Japan has come under increasing pressure recently to take urgent steps to balance its lopsided trade surplus with Europe. European and Japanese economists agree that its $9,000m (£4,704m) trade surplus last year could rise to a record $11,000m.

Ironically, the threat of protectionism has come when figures indicate that the volume of the more controversial types of exports to the European Community, such as cars and colour television sets, declined during the first ten months of the year. For instance, car exports to Britain declined by 10 per cent to 139,235 against the same period last year. However, in terms of value, these exports rose by 6 per cent to $508m. Similarly, car exports to the European Community declined by 2 per cent in volume, but rose by 7 per cent in value during the same period.

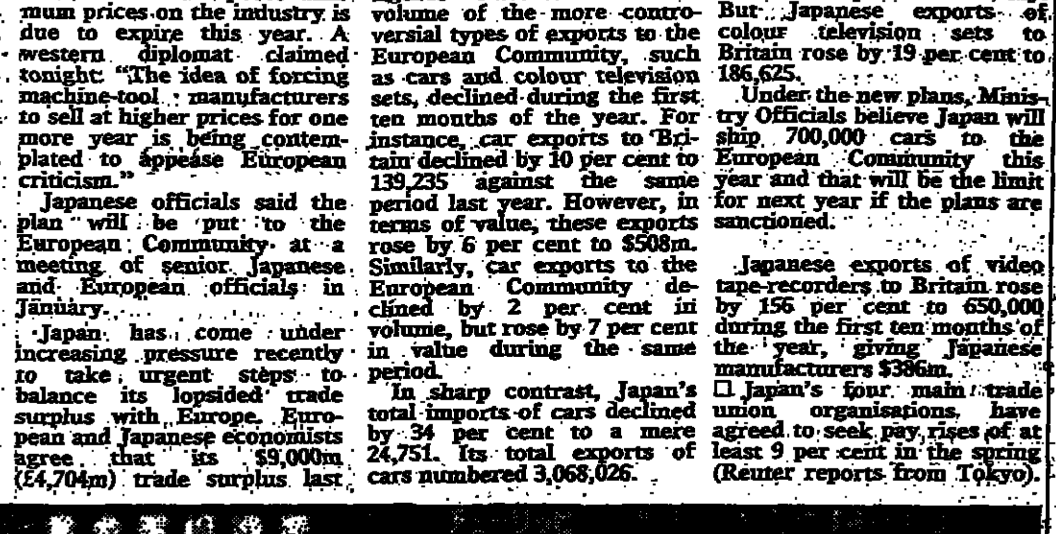
In sharp contrast, Japan's total imports of cars declined by 34 per cent to a mere 24,751. Its total exports of cars numbered 3,068,026.

Japan's exports of colour television sets to the world rose by 36 per cent with a 3 per cent decline in shipments to the European Community. But Japanese exports of colour television sets to Britain rose by 19 per cent to 186,625.

Under the new plans, Ministry Officials believe Japan will ship 700,000 cars to the European Community this year and that will be the limit for next year if the plans are sanctioned.

Japanese exports of video tape-recorders to Britain rose by 156 per cent to 650,000 during the first ten months of the year, giving Japanese manufacturers $386m.

☐ Japan's four main trade union organisations have agreed to seek pay rises of at least 9 per cent in the spring (Reuter reports from Tokyo).





Gold rush: A guardsman has to use a loudspeaker to control people jostling to buy gold at a Tokyo jewelry shop yesterday after Japanese retail prices of gold dropped to their lowest levels in two years.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
114	100	ABI Hldgs 10% CULS	114	+2	10.0	8.8	—	—
76	39	Airsprung Group	67	-1	4.7	7.0	10.6	14.7
52	21	Armitage & Rhodes	43	-1	4.3	9.7	3.6	8.1
200	92½	Bardon Hill	191	-2	9.7	5.1	9.3	11.3
104	88	Deborah Services	96	-1	5.5	5.7	4.7	9.0
126	68	Frank Horsell	122	+1	6.4	5.2	11.0	26.5
110	39	Frederick Parker	59	-1	1.7	2.9	25.7	—
110	47	George Blair	47	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	99	+1	7.3	7.4	7.1	10.8
113	59	Jackson Group	98	—	7.0	7.1	3.1	7.0
130	103	James Burrough	110	—	8.7	7.9	8.0	10.1
334	244	Robert Jenkins	287	-5	31.3	10.9	4.0	10.1
59	50	Scruttons "A"	56	-1	5.3	9.5	8.6	8.0
224	177	Torday Limited	177xd	—	15.1	8.5	6.8	11.7
23	8	Twinlock Ord	14	-½	—	—	—	—
90	63	Twinlock 15% ULS	72xi	—	15.0	20.8	—	—
56	33	Unilock Holdings	33	—	3.0	9.1	5.9	10.0
103	81	Walter Alexander	84	—	6.4	7.6	5.5	9.8
263	181	W. S. Yeates	218	—	13.1	6.0	4.1	8.4

LEGAL PLEA TO HELP CAR BUYERS

Urgent Government action to give more legal protection to buyers of used cars is needed, Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said in Birmingham yesterday.

Complaints about used cars are continuing at a high level, with the 10,631 officially reported in the first quarter of this year probably being only a small proportion of the problems actually arising, Mr Borrie said.

Winding back mileometers was still a common practice, according to the trading standards offices. But Mr Borrie acknowledged that improvements made to a code of practice for the motor industry last March should help to protect buyers.

Business appointments

New chief at Leeds Permament

Mr Peter Hemingway, a general manager of Leeds Permanent Building Society, has been appointed as chief general manager from June 1 next. He succeeds Mr Stanley K. Walker who is retiring on May 31.

Mr T. J. Ronayne has been made director of international sales and marketing by De Lorean Motor Cars. Mr Ronayne was formerly managing director of Talbot Ireland.

Mr P. J. White has become a non-executive director of Thomas Robinson & Son.

Mr Douglas G. Macdonald has been appointed a director of Robert Moss.

Mr G. Ringwood has joined the board of Hickson and Welch (Holdings).

Mr H. Stirk has been appointed as personnel director of Thames Board from January 1 next. He will retain his existing responsibilities as personnel director at Thames Case. He succeeds Mr D. W. A. Smith who will be retiring next March.

Captain Iain M. Tennant is joining the board of Abbey National Building Society from next month. He also becomes chairman of the Society's Scottish Advisory Board, on which he has served since its formation in 1968.

Mr L. S. F. Charles has become a non-executive director of Birmid Qualcast from December 1.

Mr Douglas R. Oughton has been appointed a partner of Oscar Faber & Partners, St. Albans.

Mr D. M. Milne has become chairman of the NFU Mutual & Avon Insurance Group after the death of Mr R. Cary. Mr G. H. Ballard has been made vice-chairman of the group in succession to Mr Milne.

Mr Neil Macdonald has been named deputy director in charge of marketing for Locate in Scotland, the joint industrial promotion group set up by the Government and the Scottish Development Agency.

Jobless figures lead Reagan into Budget clash

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Nov 19

President Reagan is heading for a confrontation with Congress over his 1982 Budget resolution unless a compromise on spending levels can be reached before midnight on Friday.

Mr Reagan has threatened to veto the stop-gap measure if the price tag of $400,000m (£209,000m) is not reduced, to raising the possibility that federal offices and services will have to be shut down.

The resolution now wending its way through the Senate is an interim measure authorizing overall spending levels for federal programmes until bills for specific programmes such as defence and social services are passed. The present continuing spending resolution expires at midnight on Friday.

House members, reacting to growing unemployment in their districts, approved a measure setting spending levels well above those outlined by Mr Reagan. The Democratic majority passed the measure with the support of 18 Republicans who refused to agree to additional cuts in social services.

The Senate version is also far more expensive than the President's proposal since it calls for across-the-board cuts in federal spending of only 2 per cent, rather than the 12 per cent demanded by Mr Reagan.

A bipartisan group of senators said during the debate that they could no vote for further reductions in government services to their constituents.

This prompted a flurry of last-minute negotiations between White House officials and Senate Republican leaders to try to avert a crisis when the measure is voted on by the full Senate. After that vote, House and Senate members will meet to agree on a final version to put on the President's desk before midnight on Friday.

President Reagan has offered to meet Congress halfway, as he called it, agreeing to across-the-board reductions of 5 per pent. This was refected.

Senator Howard Baker, the Senate majority leader, presented his colleagues with another "veto proof" compromise, calling for spending cuts of 3.5 per cent.

Meanwhile Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, the House speaker, claimed Mr Reagan is looking for an excuse to veto the measure to try to shift the blame for the growing recession onto Congress.

If the President does veto the final version on the grounds that it is "a Budget-busting spending Bill", both House and Senate leaders said they would meet continuously over the weekend to try to agree on a solution.

The vote on the Budget will be a "first" on two accounts. It will be the first public airing of the growing philosophic differences between Republicans and it will be the first test of the White House's ability to contain a mutiny.

Even if Mr Reagan wins this battle, he faces tougher ones in the months after he submits his Budget for the 1983 financial year to Congress.

Nothing of weight will be done on the President's economic programme until then.

Small firms offered chance to expand

By Our Correspondent

Small businesses were yesterday offered the backing of a friendly "big brother" to help — them grow.

The offer came from a furniture company which began as a small family concern and now has an annual turnover of more than £5m from its 50 shops throughout Britain.

Mr Patrick Jenkin the Industry Secretary is to visit H-Plan Fitted Bedroom Furniture in Luton, Bedfordshire to see how the company has managed to succeed so well during the recession.

The company's joint managing directors, Max Lomax, and his son Peter, are offering backing to those wishing to start their own companies.

They have developed three purpose-built factory units to let at Kettering, Northamptonshire. They will also:

☐ Arrange finance of up to £75,000 for each business through the big clearing banks.

☐ Take a minority shareholding of up to 25 per cent in each venture.

Steel row adds to tension in US talks

From Our Correspondent
Washington, Nov 19

EEC officials arrived in Washington yesterday for talks being held in an atmosphere of rising tension over steel problems serious enough to trigger a trade war.

The high-level European community delegation, led by Sir Roy Denman, has put steel and agriculture at the *top* of the list of the trade matters to be ironed out.

European officials plan to protest against a series of unprecedented steel import suits recently announced by the Reagan Administration as well as the United States attack on the community's Common Agicultural Policy through the general agreement on tariffs and trade.

Before their arrival, two members of the Reagan cabinet described relations with the EEC as "particularly tense" because of the steel cases which they fear could result in some form of European retaliation.

In addition to steel and agriculture, energy matters are also on the agenda at the suggestion of the Community

ICL to shut factory

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

ICL, Britain's largest computer manufacturer is to close a factory in Manchester and make 1,500 employees redundant, at a cost of £20m.

The new job cuts come only six months after the company announced plans to shed 5,200 of its staff at a cost estimated at about £40m.

Mr Christophor Laidlaw, the chairman of ICL said yesterday. "We deeply regret the need for this further manpower reduction programme. We hope that part of it can be achieved voluntarily and that it will be the last major reduction on a company-wide basis."

The redundancy proposals published yesterday include plans to close the manufacturing plant at Plymouth Grove in Manchester. The full breakdown on the redundancy programme is manufacturing and supply 750, marketing 430, development 200, application systems and services 70 and corporate divisions another 50.

The 1,500 includes only those jobs expected to be lost in Britain. The company's operations in marketing overseas are expected to be cut.

Mr Robb Wilmot, managing director of ICL, in a statement to staff, said: "Overseas, we anticipate making appropriate reductions in marketing operations to reflect the level of business in the countries concerned. The position will be discussed with the employees in each country".

The Plymouth Grove factory, which manufactures printed circuit boards, will lose 320 jobs and the factory's production will be transferred to Kidsgrove in Staffordshire.

The other manufacturing and supply jobs will be lost elsewhere. At Letchworth 175 jobs are expected to be lost, 20 at Ashton-under-Lyne, 110 at Kidsgrove and another 125 from the logistics group which is spread about the company.

Out of the 5,200 jobs shed in the last redundancy programme in June, about 4,200 were lost in Britain. According to the company, 3,500 people left ICL through the redundancy scheme and the remainder left by early retirement or natural wastage.

ICL has in recent months signed agreements with the Three Rivers Corporation of the United States, the Fujitsu Corporation of Japan and the Mitel Corporation of Canada.

The company says that to capitalize on these agreement, overhead costs must be further reduced. The mixure of skills in the company is no longer in balance with ICL's needs, the company claims.

CYCLICAL INDICATORS FOR THE UK ECONOMY

Based on the Central Statistical Office indices of the UK business cycle

	Longer leading (5 indicators)	Shorter leading (5 indicators)	Coincident (7 indicators)	Lagging (5 indicators)
1980				
Oct	105.3	100.6	94.2	88.0
Nov	107.5	100.8	93.7	85.6
Dec	109.5	101.0	93.4	84.1
1981				
Jan	111.4	101.8	92.9	83.0
Feb	113.6	102.5	92.7	81.9
Mar	115.0	103.8	92.4	81.4
Apr	115.9	104.3	91.6	80.7
May	116.1	104.9	91.6	79.8
June	115.8	105.2	92.1	79.6
July	115.4	105.8	92.9	80.3
Aug	114.8	105.7	93.2	80.2
Sept	113.2	106.5	93.6	79.6
Oct	110.6	106.9	94.3	79.0

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The improving trend at Shell

Royal Dutch/Shell has performed rather better in the third quarter of the year than the stock market expected, even allowing for differences over the treatment of the accounts and the impact on profits of currency movements. Net income for the three months to September rose from £391m to £424m compared with the wide expectations in the City of a figure between £250m and £500m. For the full nine months the group produced £920m against £1,789m in the comparable period of 1980.

The key lies in the turnround in the manufacturing, marine and marketing operations of the group outside North America. Here earnings rose from £171m to £236m on a nine-monthly comparison, while Shell Oil and Shell Canada saw their contribution improve to £177m. Looking at the figures on a stock replacement basis, rather than Shell's own first-in first-out (FIFO) system, which would produce only £114m in place of the £236m. But on this basis the manufacturing, marine and marketing operations, which would have sustained a loss of £88m in the second quarter, managed a turnround of some £200m.

The principal reason behind this improvement is a useful turnround in European refining and marketing. With lower crude oil costs and firmer selling prices, margins improved. In fact Shell has managed to erode the competitive disadvantage it was labouring under when set against those companies which bought their oil from Saudi Arabia. This amounted to a $2 a barrel differential, and it is hardly surprising, therefore, that Shell's statement yesterday welcomed the recent Opec agreement on pricing as restoring rationality in the structure of pricing and said it was an important positive factor for the group.

The currency joker this time reduced profits in sterling terms by £197m, thanks to American accounting standards. So, instead of earnings being £424m, a fairer representation would arguably be £621m. Whatever interpretation is used and however the statement is analysed, it is difficult to argue against the stock market's snap judgement which put the shares up 16p to 376p.

Money supply

Reasons for caution

Even though we had had the Bank's provisional estimate of 1½-1¼ per cent growth in sterling M3 last week, yesterday's final figures showing a 1.7 per cent growth in the five weeks to mid-October proves slightly disappointing. Not that there was anything unexpected in the bank lending figures, which were rather better than the previous two months. Moreover, wih a marked slowdown in the growth of building society deposits, PSL 2, the broadest measure of liquidity, grew at a relatively sedate 1.1 per cent, while narrow money (M1) showed a modest fall.

That said, there were a number of other individual components in the figures to raise feelings of unease. The central government borrowing requirement was well covered by the strong revival in private sector take-up of public setor debt, but it is also clear that the CGBR has been benefiting recently from a large switch by local authorities and/or nationalized industries from National Loans Fund to banking sector borrowing.

US Steel/Marathon

Another rebut for Mobil

US Steel's bid for control of Marathon is *not yet signed* and sealed, but for the second time in three months Mobil management appears to have miscalculated on a grand scale. After losing the batle for Conoco to Du Pont, Mobil gave the impression that it would not attempt another unfriendly offer. So even by the strange standards the American natural resources industry has set this year the Mobil bid looked odd.

To be fair, however, Mobil could be forgiven for not anticipating that the victor in the second round would be US Steel. *The American steel industry has* not shone in recent years, and has been kept alfloat largely by import protection and a drastic pruning of domestic activities. Nor was US Steel in evidence when other oil interests were up for sales earlier in the year.

But, of course, it is precisely because US Steel is embedded in a declining industry that oil is attractive to it. Whatever happens to world energy prices over the next few years, there is still plenty of room for American energy companies to expand at home. The assumption of rising earnings from Marathon must have prompted US Steel to deliver the knockout blow of $125 a share, still some $60 a share below the estimated value of Marathon's oil reserves.

It is these reserves, mainly held by Yates, which are the key to Marathon's attraction and to the way the deal with US Steel has been structured. By granting US Steel a $2,800m cash option on Yates, Marathon has made itself much less enticing to yet another third party. The option to buy 10 million Marathon shares at $90 will have a similar effect. The arithmetic of the agreement is such that one wonders how long it will be before another American natural resource company falls prey.

Boots

Competitive pressures

With half-time pretax profits up 13.9 per cent at £54.1m at Boots, the market quickly ran the share price up 6p to 209p. But once it had done its sums, stripping out £4.8m for property sales and £3.8m for exchange gains, it ran the price down again to 202p, 1p below the previous day's close. Boot's industrial side performed better than expected, profits up by 24.5 per cent, thanks to pharmaceuticals proving a mature but enduring market. However, it is the retail side that is causing concern. Although retail sales were up by 12 per cent, profits were down by 22 per cent.

Bearing 75 per cent of a £2.5m increased company pension contribution is only a small part of the reason. Salaries and overheads in all those high street stores have got higher. Margins are being squeezed severely, particularly on photographic processing and National Health Service business, important for getting customers into the stores. The impact of supermarkets and discount chemists is being felt and Boots has had to price-cut aggressively itself to keep up market share. In as much as there has been real volume growth of 2.5 per cent, *the strategy is working, although selling* space is 2 per cent greater than in the previous half.

Boot's second half performance will depend, as usual, on the important Christmas period. Aggressive marketing and the company's usual resilience in times of depressed consumer spending will keep sales up, but with margins under such severe pressure, analysts are already revising their full year profits forecasts down to £110m-£115m from £130m.

Akroyd & Smithers

From feast to famine

The gaping wounds in stockjobbers' profits left by Mr Joe Granville and the investment strike which followed his bearish remarks in the Autumn are beginning to show through. In its second half (to September 25) Akroyd & Smithers lost £1m, leaving profits for the year down from £20m to £6.8m. But Akroyd is increasing the dividend slightly *to* a gross 19.2p, maintaining some form of bonus for its staff, but passing the profits-related dividend which last year was a gross 3.57p. The market was thankful the picture was no worse following Wedd Durlacher's decision last month to pass half-time staff bonuses, and marked the share up 2p to 153p.

The results underline the fact that making a market in shares, gilts and traded options is not for the nervous when trade is thin. Market swings are measured in double figures and the Government is trying to avoid issuing "tap" stocks, which the fobbers have found *so lucrative* in the past. The current picture is still hazy. Yet all Akroyd will say, coyly, is that the current year has been reasonably satisfactory.

A Whitehall battle is going on between those who believe that legislation is now necessary to inhibit foreign banks and those who support a free market policy

Should the Bank of England rule?

When Treasury ministers fall *out, the issues must* have wider importance than whether Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation or Standard Chartered controls the Royal Bank of Scotland. No less than the methods by which the Bank of England and the Treasury first control the United Kingdom banking system and, secondly by implication implement economic and monetary policy, lie behind the joint Bank/Treasury proposals to warn off foreign takeovers of important financial institutions. The proposals are to *be discussed in the Cabinet's* economic strategy committee next week.

Passions have been aroused as never before within the Bank by fears that its long-standing policy of governing *London's* banking community by means of guidelines, friendly warnings and lunches with senior bankers has been blown apart by the refusal of Mr Michael Sandberg, the Hongkong Bank's chairman *to take no for an answer* when he sought permission to approach Royal Bank. By crashing through the Bank's 1972 general guidelines on foreign bids Mr Sandberg has forced the authorities to consider legislation as a final resort to protect their power and influence.

But the Bank's heated reaction to the threat to its influence and discretionary powers, has met with a cool response not only *among* some Treasury ministers, but also at the Foreign Office and the Department of Trade.

Any restrictions on foreign bidders for an important United Kingdom financial institution would, according to the dissident ministers and other concerned Whitehall departments, invite retaliation — especially from America — and be contrary to the liberalization of financial services within the European Community. For a Government firmly wedded to the free market principle, and which has abolished exchange controls, protective legislation would be embarrassing at least.

So the battle-lines have been drawn up, with the Bank seeking to retain its discretionary powers and the Foreign Office and the Department of Trade adopting the position that the Bank's views are too narrow when set against the wider principles of free trade.

The dispute was illustrated on Wednesday this week by the statement to the House of Commons by Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Lord Privy Seal, in which he asserted that Hongkong Bank was con*sidered to* be British and that regulatory methods in the Crown Colony were perfectly adequate. This is directly contrary to the Bank's views.

Again, since the Hongkong Bank launched a counter-bid to Standard Chartered's offer for the Royal Bank in April there has been a well-orchestrated campaign by the *Foreign Office and industry* in support of Hongkong Bank based on the beneficial trade links between the United Kingdom and the Colony, not to mention China, where the bank has some influence. Concern is being expressed in Whitehall that if the Hongkong Bank is seen to be discriminated against valuable *trading opportunities could be* at risk.

Certainly the Bank of England and the Chancellor acknowledge the free trade implications which the Foreign Office and others believe override the Bank's concern about its control methods. But at the heart of the Bank's argument is the view that banks are a special case because of their vital importance in the operation of monetary and economic policy.

The 1972 guidelines which *requested any potential* foreign bidder for a United Kingdom financial institution to ask the Bank's permission first, and agree terms later, have worked well enough until the entry of Hongkong Bank *earlier this year. Now* they must be tightened up, probably with the force of *stature, because other banks* (including possibly United Kingdom ones) might be tempted to follow Mr Sandbag's example and ignore Bank of England guidelines.



Keeping up with *events at the Bank* of England: the Bank has traditionally exercised supervison by means of informal guidelines.

It is this threat which has forced the Bank and the Treasury to search for improved methods by which *informal control of the bank*ing an monetary system might be continued. Suppose, for instance, that Citibank had gained possession of Lloyds or Midland just before President Carter, in November, 1979, *ordered* all American banks at home and overseas to freeze Iranian assets in retaliation against the seizure of the American hostages in Teheran? The prospect of Midland or Lloyds share*holders and depositors* suffering because of a foreign directive would be a shattering blow to any government's prestige and would hardly be conducive to the national interest.

Again, it is no secret that after the abolition of exchange controls two years ago *the Bank sent a letter to* all banks in London requesting restraint in their foreign *currency lending to avoid* upsetting monetary growth targets. By and large the clearing banks accepted the directive, then found themselves losing market share as foreign banks in London ignored the Bank's letter and serviced the needs of United Kingdom customers who wished to switch cash into *dollars, Swiss francs, or* Deutsche-marks. This kind of lending helped to burst the corset and led to an explosion of the money supply in the summer of 1980.

It is because of this kind of defiance that the authorities are preparing a replacement for the 1972 rules. Fully *aware of the Government's* free market principles neither the Bank nor the Treasury will relish introducing legal measures to deter foreigners who might be casting covetous eyes on the highly *profitable United* Kingdom banking sector, but it seems to be proving impossible to devise a middle way between legislation and guidelines which have failed.

Under the Banking Act 1979 it would be possible to refuse a licence to a bidder who was not deemed "fit or proper" to control a United Kingdom bank. But this sledgehammer approach can be ruled out, since it would damage both a bank's shareholders and depositors.

More likely, the Bank/Treasury team will propose that any bid for an important United Kingdom institution, *whether domestic or foreign*, which operates against the national or strategic interest will not be allowed. And that refusal will either be in the form of a directive, backed by the Government, or a new Act of Parliament.

The conflict between the strongly held view of the Bank and the Treasury that banks are a strategic asset which should not be allowed to pass into foreign hands, because this would diminish supervision of the economy, and the free trade argument will deepen and fuel more passion in Whitehall. The Momopolies Commision report on the rival bids for Royal Bank which *triggered* the argument has raised issues of far greater moment than can ever have been realized.

Kevin Page

The danger of retaliation from abroad

The proposals put forward by the Bank of England for legislation, to prevent future takeovers of United Kingdom banks come at a time when the trend internationally is towards allowing the free entry of competitors into domestic financial markets.

The Campbell Committee report, published earlier this week in Australia, has recommended sweeping deregulation of the financial system, abolition of exchange controls and, significantly, the lifting of the ban on foreign banks setting up *in Australia. This* latter recomendation is in tune with similar changes introduced in Canada, where the 1980 Banking Act cleared the way for foreign banks to set up subsidiaries or branches, *something* which they were prevented from doing before.

London, has of course, operated for many years as a financial centre with easy access for foreigners. Indeed, it has more foreign banks than any other financial centre in the world.

Of course, the Bank of England has always monitored all bank takeovers. It relaxed its informal guidelines on merchant bank takeovers in 1972. By implication, these guidelines have been taken to include all bank takeovers.

It was always understood, however, that the parties concerned would consult the Bank and accept its rulings. *The fact that the Bank now* believes that legislation may be necessary is a sign that this understanding may no longer be sufficient.

The proposals for legislation raise the question whether a takeover of a leading British bank is indeed likely. The table shows the present stock market values of the four *big* clearing banks, but any bidder would have to pay substantially more.

Royal Bank of Scotland, for instance, was valued at about £200m before the bids from Standard Chartered and Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The final price put on it of about £500m before the Monopolies Commission intervened was roughly the asset value.

What the Big Four are worth*

	£m
Barclays	1,224
Lloyds	738
Midland	514
NatWest	938

*Current stock market value.

If Lloyds or Midland — the smaller of the four big clearers and therefore most vulnerable to a takeover — *were bid for at around asset* value, the price would in both cases be in the region of £1,300m to £1,400m. To put that in perspective the biggest bank in the world by market value, the Hongkong and *Shanghai, is at present* valued at £2,200m, while the two biggest American banks, Bank America and Citicorp, are worth £1,900m and £1,800m respectively.

This suggests that a full takeover of either Lloyds or Midland, while not impossible, is unlikely. It could, however, be well within the grasp of one of the big American banks to build up a large and influential shareholding in one of them.

Foreign control of one of the big four clearing banks might be only a remote possibility, but it appears to be a risk that the Bank of *England is not prepared to* run.

If legislation were to be introduced, the obvious fear is that it would quickly lead to retaliation, particularly from *the United States* where over the last decade British banks have made large inroads through acquisitions. W. Greenwell recently estimated that British banks (including, ironically, Hongkong and Shanghai) had *invested* some $2,500m (about £1,300m) in the United States since 1979.

Major purchases by British banks in the US

	Acquisition	Amount paid	year
Lloyds	*First Western Bank of California*	$115m	*1974*
Nat West	National Bank of North America	$431m	1979 1979
Standard Chartered	Union Bancorp	$372m	1979
Barclays	First Western National	$52m	1975
Midland	American Credit Corp	$191m	1979
	AETNA Business Credit	*$165m*	*1980*
Midland	Crocker National Bank	$820m	1981

Some argue that with these acquisitions now completed, British banks have little to fear from the threat of retaliation from the United States. But there could still be some casualties. The Bank of Scotland is thought to have been looking hard for an acquisition in America and if, for instance, both bids for the Royal Bank *of Scotland* were blocked and it remained independent it, too, would doubtless want a presence in the crucial American market. It has long wanted to become more international.

The big four clearing banks could also have something to fear. Many believe that the long-awaited liberalization of *the American* banking industry is drawing near. Banks may soon be allowed to operate deposit-taking branches across state frontiers, while the strict separation between banks engaged in commercial banking and those involved in merchant *banking and stockbroking* could be relaxed.

Moves in this direction could lead to rapid changes in the structure of the United States banking industry. Conceivably, British banks, *including those which have* already established themselves in the United States, could be prevented or hindered from taking full advantage of the changes.

The attitude of the clearing banks towards foreign takeovers of British banks is probably fairly summarized by Mr Frank Dolling, the Barclays vice-chairman, who was quoted earlier this year as saying that as a general principle an international bank like Barclays which had a number of overseas acquisitions could hardly oppose foreign banks buying into the United Kingdom. But he went on to say that objections were justified if a significant part of the domestic banking market was involved.

There is little doubt, however, that the banking world would be reluctant to see the introduction of legislation which would conflict with the *liberal traditions of* London as a financial centre and which might have adverse consequences overseas.

Peter Wilson-Smith

Business Diary: Spotlight on Cinecitta's camera obscurer

Cinecitta, like the colosseum, is now a station on Rome's underground system. For only 200 lire (about 9 pence), you can travel the six miles from the city centre in little more than 20 minutes. It would have been ideal for the crowds of would-be extras who used to throng the gates in the hope of being taken on durng the hungry post war years when Sophia Loren and Gina Lollobrigida were becoming known.

But, like the Colosseum, will it become a memorial to the past? There is an air at once sleepy and empty about its Fascist designed, burnt-sienna buildings set amid pine lined avenues, compared to the activity in the 1950s and 60s. Since the war 800 foreign and Italian films have been made in its nine studios. In these days, just one has been in production recently: Colombia's *Tempest*, directed by Paul Mazursky, starring John Cassavetes and his wife Gena Rowlands.

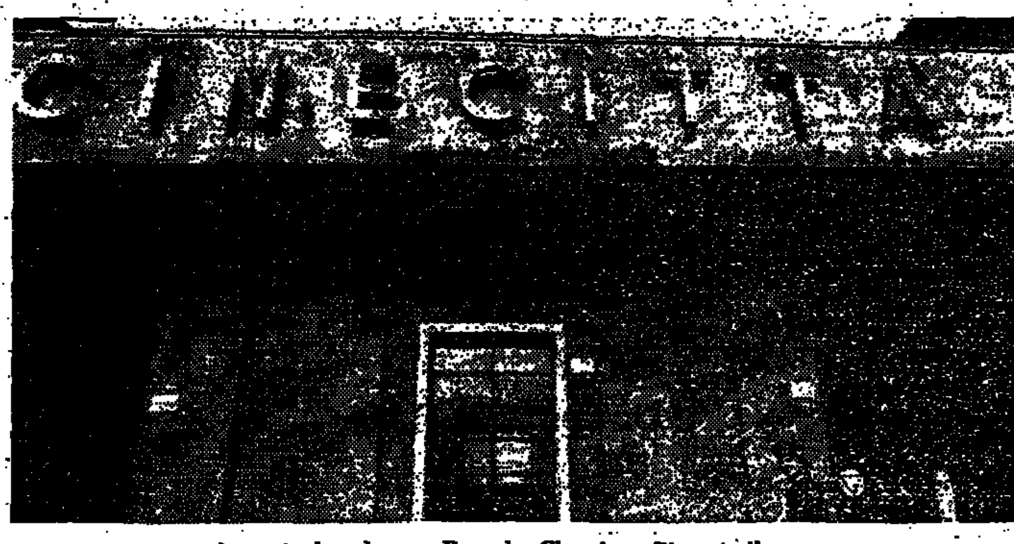
Pietro Ponti, Cinecitta's director general, puts a brave face on it. "Things are going well, in the sense that we succeed in obtaining important clients like *Tempest*. Federico Fellini likes to make *his films* here, and so do some of the younger Italian directors, like Ettore Scola. But things could go better, because we need to register a bigger turnover." Cinecitta's turnover last year was only 6,600m *lire* (now about £3m) against 94,000m (£42m) for all Italian movie makers.

Cinecitta, founded in 1937, is owned by the state's Ente Autonomo di Gestione per il Cinema, and, like most things belonging to the state, it runs at a loss. This is a pity its officials say, because, except for the Bavaria studio in Munich it is the only studio in Europe which can offer such a range of integrated facilities for film making.

Because Cinecitta is state owned, it has to observe all the rules and regulations on pay scales, safety precautions, camera crew manning, social insurance payments, and so on. It cannot take short cuts, as do some private studios.

Pietro Ponti, an engineer by training, came to Cinecitta 30 years ago to help clear up war damage and the mess from its use as *a refugee camp. For* people like him it must be sad to look back to the times when Cinecitta took in its stride for $2m (1961) the reconstruction of the Roman Forum and near Nettuno on the coast of *Alexandria* harbour. This was for *Cleopatra*, the film which brought together Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

These were hectic days when production was dominated by Dino de Laurentiis and Carlo Ponti. But Signor de Laurentiis' own studios on *the Via Pontina; more modern* than Cinecitta, have been closed for the last nine years, while Ponti and his wife Sophia Loren have become French citizens who rarely come to Italy after brushes with the law *over taxation and currency*.



Not exactly queuing at the doors: Rome's Cinecitta film studios.

Cinecitta's decline in fact reflects that of the industry as a whole in Italy, production reached a peak in 1972 with 277 full length films and 233 in 1976, *since when it* fell to 163 in 1980. This year is bound to be still lower, as *only 47 were made in the first* six months.

Since 1975 France has overtaken Italy as Europe's number one film maker, with an output in 1980 of 235 against 163, though 46 of the 235 *were dismissed as* "pornographic or violent" in a study by Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, which has a special section for credit to the cinema industry.

In their small way British *film makers* have not been doing too badly, as the 21 films imported in 1978 for a *market share of 2.8 per cent* rose to 24 films in 1979 with a market share of 4.6 per cent.

Attempts are being made to revive interest in the cinema. The Venice festival, closed after 1968, was restarted two *years ago. Since April Parlia*ment has before it a government Bill for new incentives to producers, distributors and cinema owners, in the form of soft loans, grants, entertainment tax rebates and the like.

The Bill has been dubbed in the press the "never on Sunday" measure, since it *prohibits* showing *of films* either by the State or private television stations "on festive or prefestive days" — in other words, Saturdays and Sundays.

This is presumably an attempt to make life difficult for the maverick private stations which have mushroomed in recent years and are estimated in the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro study to amount to 676, with another *446 repeaters relaying foreign* television networks.

Competition from television is the nub of the question. For Cinecitta, the logical solution for its problems would be to combine with the State *television* corporation RAI. This was in fact envisaged under a Bill submitted by the government in 1977, whereby RAI would have bought a 50 per cent holding in it. But the Bill failed to find parliamentary support, and was withdrawn.

The incentives are to be administered by a 60 *member* National Cinema Commission, with an elaborate network of committees and sub-committees. Films will be eligible for aid if they are classed as of Italian nationality, for which producers will have to submit 12 differnet documents and certificates.

John Earle

Stock Exchange Prices

Oils a strong feature

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 9. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, Nov 23. Settlement Day, Nov 30

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.



BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
99	88	Treas	8½% 1980-82	99	+1/32	8.586	14.396
97	81½	Treas	3% 1982	97	..	3.083	14.429
102¾	90½	Treas	14% 1982	99¾	+1/16	14.017	14.236
96½	85¾	Treas	8¼% 1982	96	+¼	8.626	14.028
96¾	85¼	Exch	9¼% 1982	96	+¼	9.624	14.263
95½	84½	Exch	8¾% 1983	93	+¼	9.199	13.495
92	76½	Exch	3% 1983	89½	..	3.358	11.557
99	85¾	Treas	12% 1983	97¼	+¼	12.339	14.360
94½	84½	Treas	9½% 1983	93¼	+¼	11.728	13.934
102¾	94¼	Exch	13½% 1983	98	• ..	13.776	14.703
94	84½	Exch	10% 1983	92¼	•+¼	10.840	14.503
88	76½	Fund	5½% 1982-84	85½	..	6.419	13.285
97	86½	Exch	11¼% 1984	93	+¼	12.097	14.986
104	94½	Exch	14% 1984	95¾	•+¼	14.177	14.639
82¼	68¾	Exch	3% 1984	79½	•+¼	3.780	12.606
99½	85	Treas	12% 1984	94	+¼	12.765	14.632
109¼	95½	Treas	15% 1985	99½	+¼	15.093	15.210
98½	88½	Exch Cv	12% 1985	99	+¼	13.034	15.116
76	68	Treas	3% 1985	73	•+¼	4.107	12.806
96	85½	Treas	11½% 1985	88½	+¼	12.940	15.555
103¼	87¾	Exch	12¼% 1985	91½	•+¼	13.334	15.034
97½	84½	Exch	11¾% 1986	88½	+¼	13.223	15.377
69	65¾	Treas	3% 1986	68½	..	4.372	12.290
97½	84½	Treas	12% 1986	89½	•+¼	13.410	15.301
MEDIUMS							
89½	78½	Treas	8½% 1984-86	81½	..	10.413	14.014
105½	90½	Exch	13¼% 1987	97½	+¼	14.161	15.082
81½	70¼	Fund	6½% 1985-87	75½	+¼	8.648	13.002
98½	81½	Treas	12% 1987	87¼	+¼	13.757	15.353
83	71½	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	77½	+¼	10.307	13.835
65¾	54½	Trans	3% 1978-88	65½	+¼	4.841	11.523
96	78½	Treas	11½% 1989	86	+¼	13.815	15.396
68¾	57¾	Treas	5% 1986-89	64½	+¼	7.807	12.224
104¼	88½	Treas	13% 1990	94½	+¼	14.410	15.098
95½	81½	Exch	12½% 1990	88	+¼	14.528	15.555
83	69½	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	72½	•+¼	11.905	13.714
96¼	79½	Treas	11¾% 1991	85¼	+¼	14.420	15.398
68	57	Fund	5¾% 1987-91	61½	+¼	9.457	13.139
92¾	73¾	Exch	11% 1991	79	+¼	14.047	15.383
102½	83¾	Treas	12¾% 1992	90½	+¼	14.748	15.410
86¼	70¼	Treas	10% 1992	76½	+¼	13.525	15.058
100½	79	Exch	12¼% 1992	86½	+¼	14.719	15.477

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
91	45	MFI Furn	51	..	3.7	7.3	9.4
248	144	MK Electric	213	+3	17.1	8.0	8.1
365	170½	ML Hldgs	293	..	10.0	3.4	9.4
50½	27	MY Dart	30½	..	2.6	8.6	5.3
150	86	McCorquodale	123	..	11.4	9.3	6.0
82	66	Macfarlane	70	..	5.3	7.6	8.4
43	18	McInerney Prop	22	..	2.2	10.1	5.1
53	25	Mackay H.	38	..	5.2	13.6	13.9
127	84	McKechnie Bros	85	• ..	10.4	12.2	4.7
100	56	Macpherson D.	63	..	6.0	9.5	23.8
174	88¾	Magnet & S'thns	130	..	7.1	5.5	9.3
217	97	Man Agcy Music	123	..	12.5b	10.2	4.3
255	101	Man Ship Canal	101	..	..e	..	..
36	21	Mang Bronze	24	• ..	3.1	12.9	..
154	67	Marchwiel	112	..	8.6	7.7	..
142	78	Marks & Spencer	123	+1	5.8	4.7	16.8
51	33½	Marley Ltd	36	..	3.2	8.9	8.2
28	14½	Marling Ind	24½	..	1.3	5.5	17.1
42	22	Marshall T Lox	37	..	4.0	10.7	3.3

O—S

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
40	19	Solicitors Law	27	..	..	..	..
535	350	Sotheby P.B.	437	+10	17.9	4.1	11.6
184	115½	Spirax-Sarco	146	+8	6.3	4.3	12.2
88	28	Staffs Potts	38	..	6.0	..	..
107	70	Stag Furniture	84	+2	7.1	8.5	7.1
59½	29¾	Stakis (Reo)	46	+½	2.1	4.5	7.8
544	230	Standard Tel	435	..	15.0	3.4	14.3
87	45	Stanley A. G.	45	−1	3.6	7.9	7.3
225	135	Steel Bros	219	• −2	11.4	5.2	8.4
222	154	Steetley Co	166	..	15.0	9.0	8.0
25½	13½	Steinberg	25	..	..	..	..
120	84	Stonehill	98	..	12.1	12.4	33.7
56	9	Stone Platt	10	..	..	..	..
32	11	Streeters	24	..	..	..	8.2
80	48	Strong & Fisher	52	..	8.7	16.7	..
110	42	Sunlight Serv	91	+1	3.6	4.0	7.5
52	26	Sutcliffe S'man	46	..	..e	..	..
188	61½	Swire Pacific 'A'	105½	−½	..	..	..
201	140	Syltone	156	..	12.9	8.1	17.5

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
383	285	Moran	280	..	7.1t	2.6	..
156	93	Surmah Valley	93	..	1.4	1.5	..
253	132¼	Warren Plant	232	h ..	14.3	6.0	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	38	+1	9.1	24.0	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£28	..	500	17.2	
30	17	Gt Nthn Tele	£30	..	150	5.0	11.3
333	150	Imp Cont Gas	175	..	11.4	6.5	11.2
155	93	Milford Docks	115	..	0.7	0.6	..
193	85	Nesco Inv	128	..	10.0	7.8	..
33	25½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£29	..	500	17.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) November 19	Market rates (close) November 19	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.9060-9260	$1.9110-9120	0.48-0.38c prem	1.02-0.92c prem
Montreal	$2.2580-2730	$2.2615-2625	0.27-0.37c disc	0.65-0.80c disc
Amsterdam	4.65-70fl	4.68½-69½fl	1½-1¼c prem	4-3½c prem
Brussels	71.25-85f	71.65-75f	32-42c disc	74-84c disc
Copenhagen	13.70-80k	13.78-80k	330-240ore prem	455-320ore prem
Dublin	1.2000-2100p	1.2075-2090p	25-40p disc	85-115p disc
Frankfurt	4.26-30m	4.28½-29½m	1½-1¼pf prem	4½-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	122.40-123.30e	122.60-90e	30-190c disc	75-405c disc
Madrid	182.00-183.30p	182.30-50p	par-25c disc	30-55c disc
Milan	2277-88lr	2285½-87½lr	8¾-11¾lr disc	39½-39¼lr disc
Oslo	11.06-11k	11.08-09k	40-150ore disc	180-70ore prem
Paris	10.74-81f	10.80-81f	par-1c disc	5½-6¼c disc
Stockholm	10.46-52k	10.47-48k	215-145ore prem	530-480ore prem
Tokyo	415-25y	420½-21½y	2.85-2.55y prem	7.35-7.00y prem
Vienna	29.90-30.10sch	30.00-05sch	15-10gro prem	35-30gro prem
Zurich	3.41-45f	3.42½-43½f	1½-1¼c prem	4¼-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.2 at 90.6.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 15%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 15 Low 14

Week Fixed: 15-14¼

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14¼	2 months	14⅛
3 months	13 15/16	3 months	13 13/16

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%)		Trades (Dis%)	
2 months	14 7/32-14 5/32	3 months	14⅝
3 months	13⅞-13 25/32	4 months	14¼
4 months	13⅝-13½	6 months	13¾
6 months	13¼-13⅛		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15½-15¼	7 months	14¼-14
2 months	15¼-15	8 months	14¼-14
3 months	15-14¾	9 months	14¼-14
4 months	14⅞-14½	10 months	14¼-14
5 months	14⅝-14½	11 months	14¼-14
6 months	14¼-14	12 months	14¼-14

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	15¼-15⅛	6 months	14¼-14
3 months	14⅝-14½	12 months	14 1/16-13 15/16

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	15½	3 months	14¾
7 days	15½	6 months	14½
1 month	15¼	1 year	14⅛

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 15⅛ Close 13½

1 week	16⅛-15⅞	6 months	14 7/16-14 5/16
1 month	15¼-15⅛	9 months	14 5/16-14 3/16
3 months	14 13/16-14 11/16	12 months	14¼-14⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15¼ 6 months 14⅞

Finance House Base Rate 16%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6635-1.6785
Bahrein	0.7242-0.7272
Finland	8.3090-8.3490
Greece	107.25-109.25
Hongkong	10.8705-10.9105
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5401-0.5431
Malaysia	4.2885-4.3185
Mexico	48.60-50.10
New Zealand	2.2835-2.3135
Saudi Arabia	6.5575-6.5875
Singapore	3.9165-3.9465
South Africa	1.8420-1.8590

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5910-1.5940
† Canada	1.1831-1.1833
Netherlands	2.4490-2.4510
Belgium	37.47-37.52
Denmark	7.1600-7.1700
West Germany	2.2405-2.2420
Portugal	64.20-64.40
Spain	94.90-95.00
Italy	1195-1198
Norway	5.7700-5.7800
France	5.6385-5.6425
Sweden	5.4700-5.4800
Japan	219.80-220.90
Austria	15.66-15.69
Switzerland	1.7950-1.7980

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8453-0.8455

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 12-13; seven days, 12⅞-12⅝; one month, 12 13/16-12 11/16; three months, 12½-12⅜; six months, 12⅞-12⅝.

Gold

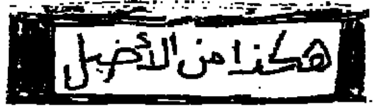
Gold fixed: am, $401 (an ounce); pm, $401 close, $398.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $412-414 (£215.70-216.70).
Sovereigns (new): $95-99 (£51-52).

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Acsis Jewellery 10p Ord (70a)	72
Asprey 25p Ord (a)	775
Brooke Bond Liebig 8¾% Db 87-92	£69½
Cable and Wireless 50p Ord (168)	194
E. Worcester Wtr 10½% Rd Pf 1986 (†b)	£13¾
Exco International 10p Ord (140)	177-2
Feedback Group 10p Ord (90a)	85
Greenwich Cable 25p Ord (50a)	42-2
Habitat Group 10p Ord (110)	133
Humberside Elect Controls 10p Ord (10½a)	17
Johnstone's Paints 10p Ord (65a)	76+1
London Private Health 25p Ord (28a)	26½+½
Precious Metals Trust 25p Ord (£1)	98-1
Sheldon Jones 25p Ord (67a)	69-1
Television South 10p Ord NV (ak)	32-1
Do 14/20% 1988-89 Ln (ak)	£87
Tendering K'dred Wtr 10½% Rd Pf '86 (£100b)	£12¾
V W 25p Ord (62a)	62+1

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of return	
BP (275 partly paid)	Dec 18	180+6
Northern Foods (126†)	..	10 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £30 paid. j £25 paid. k issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.



FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Cheap money hopes lift equities

The overpowering lure of cheaper money had equities on a better tack yesterday after the overnight reduction in United States interest rates.

Jobbers reported an encouraging increase in turnover although investors played it cautiously and proved selective in their purchases. Sentiment was given an early lift by much better than expected third-quarter profits from Shell Transport & Trading which leapt 16p to 376p and gave a long-awaited boost to the rest of the oil sector.

Royal Bank of Scotland was another early mover, climbing 17p to 175p after an intimation from the Government that it might favour the bid from Hongkong & Shanghai Banking, down 3p at 135p, when the outcome of the Monopolies Commission's findings are published. Rival suitor Standard Chartered finished 8p higher at 637p.

The *FT* Index closed at its high point of the day with a rise of 8.2 at 511.7—despite a lower Wall Street opening.

Gilts, continuing their recent firm trend, were bolstered by the latest cut in United States prime rates and the strength of the bond market.

Prices in longs rose by as *much as £½ in places with shorts* around £⅛ firmer. The latest money supply figures for October, which showed an increase of £1,250m were hardly given *a second glance*.

Around £400m to £500m of the new tap of £1,000m Exchequer 14 per cent 1986 was applied for and is expected to receive a warm reception when dealings begin today.

Blue chips scored some notable gains with rises of 4p in ICI at 318p, 9p in Hawker Siddeley at 318p, 9p in Lucas Industries at 209p and 11p in British Aerospace at 197p. The exception was Glaxo, down 4p *at 430p*.

Business after hours was highlighted by a sharp rise in T. W. Ward, up 18p at 144p, amid rumours of a dawn raid today by Rio Tinto-Zinc, up 11p at 462p. Tunnel Holdings 'B', in which Ward has a 42 per cent stake, also jumped 20p to 460p.

City Offices retreated 5p to 123p. It recently rejected an approach from Greycoat Estates. G. W. Sparrow fell 2p to 53p after learning that BET had sold its 11.44 per cent stake to the National Contracting Company of Kuwait. In motors, the Appleyard Group improved 3p to 72p after Suter Electrical, unchanged at 56p, increased its stake to 25 per cent and started hopes of a full bid.

Rothmans International rose a further 2½p to 76p yesterday ahead of next week's half-year figures, which should prove unexceptional. However, dealers claim the shares are being bought in expectation of a full-scale bid from Philip Morris, which earlier this year picked up half of the Rembrandt Group's 44 per cent stake.

Boots' half-time profits were at the upper end of expectations but included some exceptional items. As a result the price fell 1p to 202p in an otherwise firm stores sector. Still reflecting recent figures, *W. H. Smith 'A' rose 3p to* 165p, British Home Stores 2p to 132p, Mothercare 4p to 142p and J. Hepworth 4p to 91p.

The market breathed a sigh of relief at the full-year news from jobbers Akroyd & Smithers *where a small loss had* been expected after this year's tough trading conditions.

Shares of Pyramid Group returned from suspension 8p higher at 58p after the bid of 60p a share from the private company Starwest Holdings.

Exco, which made its market debut on Wednesday, slipped another 1p to 177p as the stags continued to take their profits, although it still shows a healthy premium of 37p over the offer price of 140p.

In electricals, Ferranti celebrated an £8m British Telecom contract with a 15p rise at 550p and *Plessey rose 13p to 338p* in sympathy.

Oils shared in Shell's success with Royal Dutch hardening 43p to £17.33p. BP, reporting soon, rose 10p to 310p, Ultramar 8p to 488p, Lasmo 7p to 464p, Tricentrol 6p to 242p and Burmah 3p to 118p. A line of 250,000 Clyde Petroleum was quickly placed at 158p.

Equity turnover on November 18 was £102.547m (14,168 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were: Royal Bank of Scotland, Shell, Boots, Royal Dutch, Candecca, Barclays Bank, RTZ, Lucas Ind, Vaal Reefs, Thomas W. Ward, Midland Bank and British Aerospace.

Shares of GKN leapt 10p to 164p yesterday after reports of an upgrading of the company by brokers Rowe & Pitman. Apparently they are looking for something substantially better than the market's original estimates of £30m for the year when the company reports in March. Last year GKN reported a loss of £1.2m.

Traditional options saw a busy declaration day with calls in Royal Bank of Scotland on 17p, Keith Collins Pet on 2½p and Rothmans Int on 7p, while a double was completed in ICI on 32p.

Traded options: Total contracts amounted to 1,274 of which GEC totalled 380.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Allied Leather (I)	11.6(11.58)	0.38(0.49)	—(—)	1.7(1.7)	10/12	—(5.5)
Akroyd & S. (F)	—(—)	5.8(20.5)	20.7(55.7)	10(9*)	5/2	13.5(15*)
Audio Fidelity (F)	3.85(5.0)	0.28†(3.09)	—(—)	—(0.7)	—	—(0.7)
C. H. Bailey (F)	11.66(10.6)	0.67(0.53)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Black Arrow (I)	3.45(3.12)	0.25(0.21)	2.67(2.03)	1(0.9)	4/1	—(2.5)
Boots (I)	680.9(624.5)	54.1(47.5)	9.8(8.4)	2.8(2.8)	8/1	—(7.5)
Braby Leslie (I)	14.8(15.8)	0.1(0.11)	1.4(0.6)	—(1.0)	—	—(2.5)
Brunning (I)	21.5(21.9)	0.28(0.3)	—(—)	1.5(1.5)	5/1	—(4.02)
Bulmer & Lumb (I)	13.2(14.95)	0.33(0.45)	2.77(2.61)	1.6(1.6)	5/1	—(2.81)
Churbury Ests. (I)	—(—)	0.21(0.23)	4.36(10.36)	4.5(4)	—	—(20)
C. Davis (I)	41.5(46.8)	1.31(1.74)	5.5(5.45)	1.5(2)	—	—(4.5)
Dominion & Gen. (I)	—(—)	0.39(0.38)	6.01(5.91)	3(3)	1/12	—(10.7)
Duple Int. (F)	20.0(24.75)	0.04(3.3)	5.42(21.21)	1.5(3)	—	2.9(5.8)
B. Elliott (I)	52.9(54.3)	1.12(3.15)	1.03(7.35)	2(5)	—	—(+0)
M. J. Gleeson (F)	56(68)	1.01(0.88)	8.95(7.75)	1.8(1.6)	—	2.8(2.5)
Lep Group (I)	33.58(33.05)	2.28(3.45)	—(—)	4(4)	—	—(16.5)
Thos. Locker (I)	10.1(10.8)	0.8(0.552)	0.8(0.79)	0.2(0.2)	3/12	—(5.06)
Nthn. Amer. Tst. (F)	—(—)	2.77(2.37)	3.22(4.74)	3.7(3.4)	8/1	5(4.6)
Pitman (I)	16.1(13.4)	0.46(0.29†)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Porter Chad. (I)	6.86(8.42)	0.053†(0.15)	—(—)	—(1.3)	—	—(2.6)
Powell, D. (I)	215.8(204.4)	4.63(6.79)	—(—)	4.7(4.7)	6/1	—(14.25)
Renold (I)	60(67)	1.45†(3.2)	5.5†(3.7)	—(—)	—	—(2.0)
Royal D/S (9 mths)	34,372(29,972)	920(1,789)	32(62)	—(—)	—	—(19.1)
Stocklake (F)	32.11(33.86)	3.35(3.01)	32.78(36.82)	4.5(3.15)	21/12	6(4)
Stockholders Inv. (F)	—(—)	2.5(2.89)	3.61(4.27)	2.4(2.2)	21/1	3.7(3.5)
Singlo Group (F)	22(18)	0.51(0.3)	1.67(1.4)	0.7(0.7)	1/3	—(1.17)

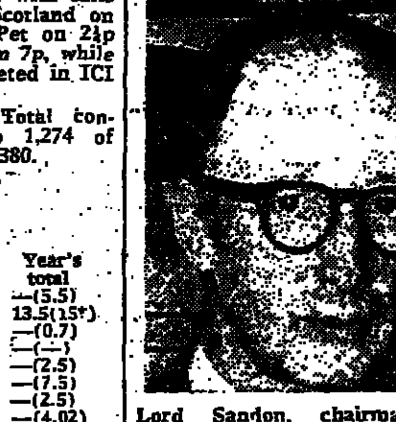
Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * Adjusted for scrip issue; † Loss.

Sharp fall midway at Powell Duffryn

By Paul Maidment

A strong performance overseas partly offset a nosedive in first-half trading profits in the shipping and construction services divisions of Powell Duffryn, the industrial holding group whose interests also cover fuel distribution, bulk liquid storage and engineering. But group pretax profits were still down by almost a third on the first half last year, although the half-time dividend is being maintained.

For the half year to September 30, group *pretax profits fell* by 32 per cent to £7.5m. Sales were 5.6 per cent higher at £215.8m.




Lord Sandon, chairman of Powell Duffryn.

Trading profits were £7.5m, against £9.1m a year earlier, of which £3m was earned overseas, against £2m in the first half of 1980. Interest payable rose from £2.3m to £2.9m, reflecting the continued high cost of finance and planned increase in borrowings, the company says.

Attributable profits dropped from £4.8m to £3.15m. The dividend is held at 6.17p gross.

Lord Sandon, the chairman, says he expects a stronger profit performance in the second half, indicating a return to a normal seasonal pattern of group trading compared with last year.

He expects an improved second half for the shipping division on the back of good coal shipments. Trading profits for the division in the first half plummeted from £2.3m to £1.05m. The shipping market was severely depressed in the second half of 1980.

Second-half results for the group are likely to reflect the increased importance of overseas earnings. It says it is actively looking to expand in the United States.

The shares fell 5p to 235p on the figures.

Duple recovers in second half

By Margareta Pagano

Duple International, the coach-building group, has recovered *from half-time losses to* return to a small profit in the full year after a prolonged period of destocking by coach *dealers*.

Pretax profits of £40,000 in the year to August compared with £3.3m in the previous year. Sales fell by £4.4m to £20m. Despite the halved final dividend of 2.14p gross, which makes the total for the year 4.14p against 8.2p gross, the group's shares rose 2p to 38p on the better than expected results. At the half-year, Duple lost £380,000 on sales of £8.7m.

Coachbuilding, normally the backbone of the group, providing 80 per cent of profits, suffered from tough trading through lower demand. Turn*over in the bodybuilding* division fell by 13 per cent because of destocking by dealers and operating profits fell from £3m to £475,000.

But Mr Gordon Hay, the chairman, says that recently introduced models are doing well. Duple Metsec, the bus body kit business bought in September last year, has made significant contributions to export orders and profits.

Duple's plastics division, which mostly supplies the automotive industry, plunged from a profit of £104,000 to a loss of £86,000. The engineering division, which was expected to break even last year, has fallen even deeper into losses of £196,000 against last year's £42,000 loss.

Mr Hay adds that the group continues to slim down to meet present demand levels. But, despite some improvement in orders, the group's profit margins remain under pressure.

M J Gleeson advances

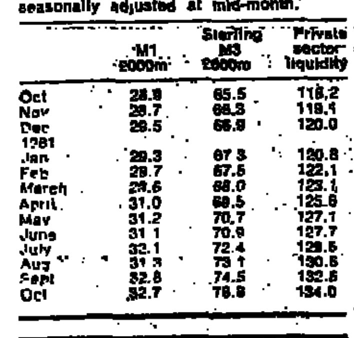
Although turnover of M. J. Gleeson (Contractors) dropped from £68m to £56m in the year to June 30, pretax profits rose from £885,000 to £1.01m. Moreover, this year's profit is before crediting an extraordinary item of £200,000 for past regional development grants. Pretax profits were higher because of the increase in rents receivable from £263,000 to £462,000. The total gross dividend is going up *from 3.65p to 4.07p*.

B Elliott hopeful after poor start

By Drew Johnston

A slight improvement in demand for machine tools over the last six to eight weeks may be an indication of a general improvement in confidence, Mr Mark Russell, chairman of machine tool-maker B. Elliott, said yesterday.

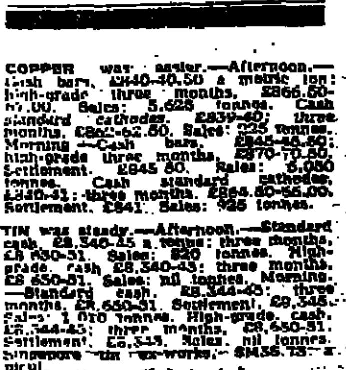
Trading conditions in the six months to September 30 continued to be difficult in the United Kingdom, he said, with turnover down from £54.3m last year to £52.94m. Pretax profit fell more sharply, to £1.12m from £3.15m last year.



MONEY SUPPLY

Monthly amount of money stock seasonally adjusted at mid-month.

	M1 £000m	Sterling M3 £000m	Private sector liquidity
Oct	28.8	65.5	118.2
Nov	28.7	66.3	119.1
Dec	28.5	66.9	120.0
1981			
Jan	29.3	67.3	120.8
Feb	29.7	67.5	122.1
March	29.6	68.0	123.1
April	31.0	69.5	125.6
May	31.2	70.7	127.1
June	31.1	70.9	127.7
July	32.1	72.4	129.5
Aug	31.3	73.1	130.5
Sept	32.8	74.5	132.6
Oct	32.7	78.8	134.0



MONTHLY CHANGE IN STERLING M3 AND DOMESTIC CREDIT EXPANSION

£m

	Bank loans to private sector	Domestic credit expansion	Sterling M3
1981			
March	+611	+814	+484
April	+323	+2,067	+1,580
May	−135	+1,027	+1,129
June	+292	+1,186	+182
July	+592	+2,217	+1,564
Aug	+156	+1,245	+825
Sept	+450	+2,466	+1,519
Oct	+481	+1,580	+1,248

News Corp expects to maintain full-year profits

News Corporation's profit this year will be about equal to last year's result, Mr Rupert Murdoch, the chief executive, told the annual meeting in Adelaide yesterday. He made this forecast despite what he said was expected to be a substantially lower result in the first six months.

Mr Murdoch said: "We have been busy in all three countries in which we operate." On British operations, he said that strong efforts were continuing to make *The Times* a success, and given increasing cooperation from the unions, he was sure it would be a great asset to the company. *The Sunday Times* was now at least 50 per cent ahead of its trading competitor, *The Observer*, while it had enjoyed record revenues both for the newspaper and its colour magazine.

The Sun had made changes as a result of tough competition, but in the last three months had moved 750,000 copies ahead of its principal rival. Mr Murdoch said that as a result of the shareholding acquired in the Glasgow publishing house, William Collins, he and a colleague had joined *the board*.

He said the News Group would remain a shareholder and play a large part in its management, but not make it a subsidiary. It was not a great profit year in Britain, but the company had made large strides in building its holdings in the country.

Churchbury lifts payout

Churchbury Estates, which earlier this year gained control of Law Land, reports pretax profits down from £331,000 to £214,000 for the half-year to September 30. However, the interim gross dividend is being raised from 5.71p to 6.42p. Earnings per share, at 4.36p, are less than half the previous year's 10.36p, but this is because of the dilution of the equity in the takeover of Law Land. Churchbury's offer has now closed and it now owns 87.57 per cent of Law Land's ordinary capital.

As a result of the acquisition, the net asset value per Churchbury share, 596p at *March 31* last, has climbed to 864p per share.

1981. The fall was because of the poor conditions in the U.K. But the half-year's results are still better than the second half of 1980 and the board ex*pects 1981's second half also to* show some improvement.

Lep Group down

On turnover slightly up from £33.05m to £33.58m, pretax profits of the Lep Group of international freight forwarders dropped from £3.45m to £2.28m in the first half of

Tunnel Holdings

Tunnel Holdings has bought, for £200,000 cash, from Leigh Interests, its 50 per cent and 16 per cent stakes in two former joint companies. This also in*cludes Leigh's 16 per cent share* in Stablex International. As a result, these three companies, which are involved in the treatment of toxic and hazardous wastes, are now wholly owned by Tunnel.

Merger cleared

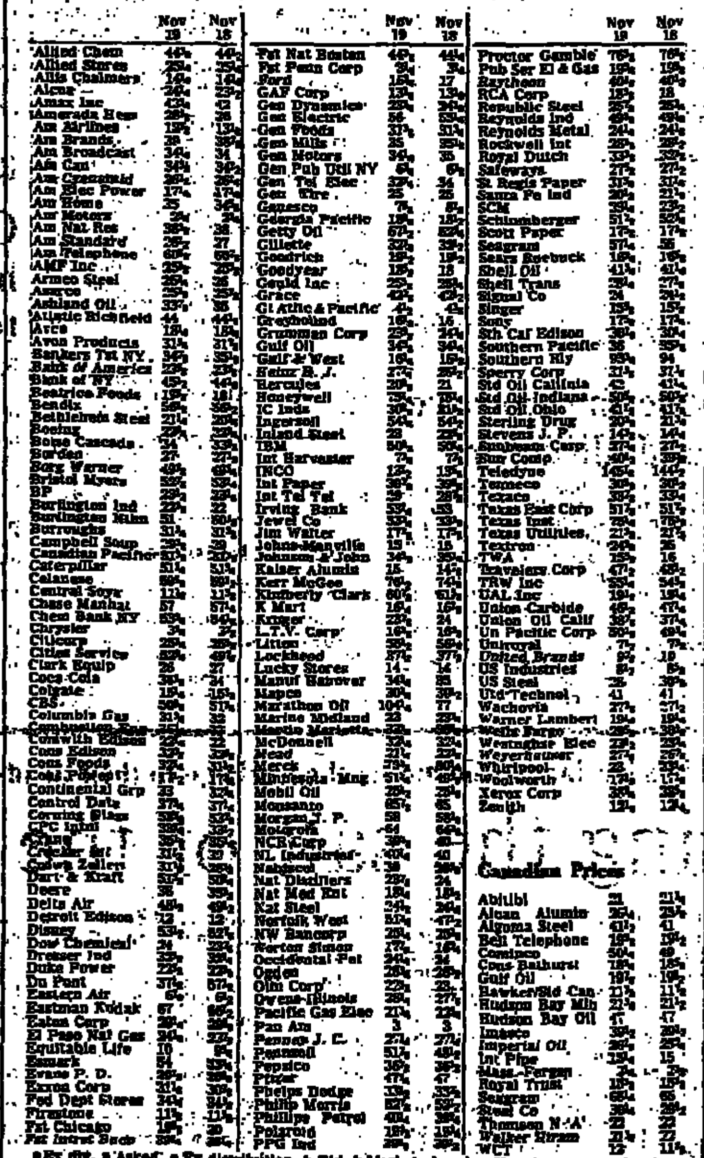
Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by a subsidiary of F. W. Woolworth of F. R. Northcott to the Monopolies Commission.

Wall Street

New York, Nov 19—US Steel's surprise bid for Marathon Oil was a boon for energy stocks but the rest of the market continued to languish and ended the day with a narrow gain.

The *Dow Jones industrial* average was down as much as five points at midday but started to *turn round late in the day on* bargain hunting. It closed up (0.67 at 844.75) and declines just edged out advances by around 750 to 730. Volume narrowed to about 49 million shares from 49.98 million yesterday.

Analysts attributed the market's weakness to continued concerns about the length and depth of the *recession*.



	Nov 19	Nov 18
Allied Chem	44¾	44¾
Allied Stores	25¼	25½
Allis Chalmers	14½	14½
Alcoa	24¼	23½
Amax Inc	42¾	42
Amerada Hess	28¾	28
Am Airlines	15⅞	15¾
Am Brands	38	38⅝
Am Broadcast	34¼	34
Am Can	34¾	34½
Am Cyanamid	26¼	26⅝
Am Elec Power	17¼	17¼
Am Home	35	34¾
Am Motors	3¼	3¼
Am Nat Res	38¾	38
Am Standard	28½	27
Am Telephone	60⅛	60⅛
AMF Inc	25¾	25⅜
Armco Steel	25¾	26
Asarco	25⅝	25¾
Ashland Oil	33⅞	33
Atlantic Richfield	44	44⅛
Avco	18¼	18¾
Avon Products	31¼	31⅞
Bankers Tst NY	34⅞	35⅛
Bank of America	23⅝	23⅝
Bank of NY	45½	44⅛
Beatrice Foods	19⅞	18⅞
Bendix	56⅝	56½
Bethlehem Steel	21¼	20⅝
Boeing	22⅝	22¾
Boise Cascade	34	33⅞
Borden	27	27⅛
Borg Warner	49⅞	49⅝
Bristol Myers	52⅞	53¼
BP	23½	23⅝
Burlington Ind	22⅝	22
Burlington Nthn	51	50⅝
Burroughs	31¼	31⅝
Campbell Soup	29⅝	29
Canadian Pacific	31⅝	31⅝
Caterpillar	51⅛	51⅛
Celanese	60⅞	60⅛
Central Soya	11⅛	11⅞
Chase Manhat	57	57¼
Chem Bank NY	53⅞	54⅛
Chrysler	3⅞	3⅞
Citicorp	25⅝	25⅞
Cities Service	52⅝	49⅞
Clark Equip	28	27
Coca Cola	34¼	34
Colgate	15¾	15⅞
CBS	50¾	51⅞
Columbia Gas	31⅞	32
Combustion Eng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Comwlth Edison	22⅜	22
Cons Edison	33⅜	32¾
Cons Foods	32⅝	31½
Cons Power	17⅛	17⅛
Continental Grp	33	32¾
Control Data	37¾	37¼
Corning Glass	53⅝	53⅝
CPC Intnl	33⅞	33⅞
Crane	35⅝	35⅝
Crocker Int	31⅞	30
Crown Zeller	31⅞	31⅝
Dart & Kraft	50⅞	50¼
Deere	38	39⅛
Delta Air	48⅝	49½
Detroit Edison	12	12
Disney	53⅞	52⅛
Dow Chemical	24	23⅞
Dresser Ind	32⅞	32⅝
Duke Power	22⅝	22⅝
Du Pont	37⅞	37⅞
Eastern Air	6⅛	6⅛
Eastman Kodak	67	66⅝
Eaton Corp	29⅞	29⅝
El Paso Nat Gas	24⅛	22⅝
Equitable Life	10	9⅞
Esmark	54	53⅝
Evans P. D.	28⅝	28⅞
Exxon Corp	31⅛	30⅞
Fed Dept Stores	34⅞	34⅞
Firestone	11⅛	11⅛
Fst Chicago	18⅝	20
Fst Intrst Bncp	29¾	29⅞

	Nov 19	Nov 18
Fst Nat Boston	44⅞	44⅛
Fst Penn Corp	3¾	3⅞
Ford	16⅞	17
GAF Corp	13⅛	13⅛
Gen Dynamics	25⅞	24⅞
Gen Electric	56	55⅞
Gen Foods	31⅞	31⅞
Gen Mills	35	35⅛
Gen Motors	34⅛	35
Gen Pub Util NY	6⅝	6⅝
Gen Tel Elec	32⅞	34
Gen Tire	25	25
Genesco	7⅝	8⅛
Georgia Pacific	18⅞	18½
Getty Oil	67⅞	62⅞
Gillette	32⅞	33⅛
Goodrich	18½	19⅛
Goodyear	18⅞	18
Gould Inc	25⅛	25⅞
Grace	42⅞	42½
Gt Atlantic & Pacific	4⅞	4⅞
Greyhound	16⅛	16
Grumman Corp	25⅞	24¾
Gulf Oil	34⅞	34⅛
Gulf & West	16⅛	15⅞
Heinz H. J.	27⅞	28½
Hercules	20⅞	21
Honeywell	75⅛	76⅛
IC Inds	30⅞	31⅛
Ingersoll	54⅞	54½
Inland Steel	28	28⅝
IBM	56⅝	56⅛
Int Harvester	7⅛	7⅞
INCO	12⅞	13⅞
Int Paper	38⅞	39⅝
Int Tel Tel	29	28⅞
Irving Bank	53⅝	53
Jewel Co	33⅛	33⅛
Jim Walter	17⅞	17⅛
Johns-Manville	15	15
Johnson & John	34⅞	35⅛
Kaiser Alumin	15	14⅞
Kerr McGee	76⅛	74⅛
Kimberly Clark	60⅝	61⅞
K Mart	16⅛	16⅞
Kroger	22⅞	24
L.T.V. Corp	16⅛	16⅞
Litton	55⅞	56⅛
Lockheed	37⅞	37⅞
Lucky Stores	14	14
Manuf Hanover	34⅛	35
Mapco	30⅞	30½
Marathon Oil	104⅞	77
Marine Midland	22	22⅞
Martin Marietta	[illegible]	[illegible]
McDonnell	32⅞	32⅞
Mead	21⅞	22⅛
Merck	79⅞	80⅛
Minnesota Mng	51⅞	49⅞
Mobil Oil	25⅞	25⅞
Monsanto	65⅞	65
Morgan J. P.	58	58⅞
Motorola	64	64⅞
NCR Corp	39⅞	40
NL Industries	40⅞	40
Nabisco	38	36⅞
Nat Distillers	23⅞	24
Nat Med Ent	18⅛	18⅛
Nat Steel	24⅞	24⅞
Norfolk West	51⅞	47½
NW Bancorp	28⅞	29⅛
Norton Simon	17⅞	16⅞
Occidental Pet	24⅞	24
Ogden	28⅞	28⅞
Olin Corp	22⅞	22
Owens-Illinois	28⅞	27⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅞	22⅛
Pan Am	3	3
Penney J. C.	27⅞	27½
Pennzoil	51⅞	48⅛
Pepsico	36⅞	36⅞
Pfizer	47⅞	47
Phelps Dodge	33⅞	33⅞
Philip Morris	52⅞	52⅞
Phillips Petrol	40⅞	38⅞
Polaroid	18⅞	19⅛
PPG Ind	36⅞	36½

	Nov 19	Nov 18
Proctor Gamble	76⅞	76⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	19⅞	19⅞
Raytheon	40⅞	40½
RCA Corp	18⅞	18
Republic Steel	25⅞	25⅞
Reynolds Ind	49⅞	49⅞
Reynolds Metal	24⅛	24½
Rockwell Int	28⅞	28½
Royal Dutch	33⅞	32⅞
Safeways	27⅞	27½
St Regis Paper	31⅞	31⅞
Santa Fe Ind	20⅞	21⅛
SCM	23⅞	23½
Schlumberger	51⅞	52⅞
Scott Paper	17⅞	17⅞
Seagram	57⅛	56
Sears Roebuck	16⅞	16⅞
Shell Oil	41⅞	41⅛
Shell Trans	28⅛	27⅞
Signal Co	24	24⅞
Singer	15⅞	15⅞
Sony	17⅞	17⅛
Sth Cal Edison	30⅞	30⅛
Southern Pacific	36	35⅞
Southern Rly	95⅞	94
Sperry Corp	31⅞	37⅛
Std Oil California	42	41⅛
Std Oil Indiana	50⅞	50½
Std Oil Ohio	41⅞	41⅞
Sterling Drug	20⅞	21⅞
Stevens J. P.	14⅞	14⅛
Sunbeam Corp	27⅛	27½
Sun Comp	40⅞	39⅞
Teledyne	145⅛	144½
Tenneco	30⅞	30½
Texaco	33⅞	33⅛
Texas East Corp	51⅞	51⅞
Texas Inst	78⅞	78⅞
Texas Utilities	21⅞	21⅞
Textron	26⅛	26
TWA	15⅞	16
Travelers Corp	47⅞	48½
TRW Inc	55⅛	54⅞
UAL Inc	19⅛	19⅛
Union Carbide	48⅞	47⅛
Union Oil Calif	38⅞	37⅛
Un Pacific Corp	50⅞	49⅞
Uniroyal	7⅞	7⅞
United Brands	9⅞	10
US Industries	8⅞	8⅞
US Steel	28	30⅞
Utd Technol	41	41
Wachovia	27⅞	27½
Warner Lambert	19⅞	19⅞
Wells Fargo	29⅞	30⅞
Westinghse Elec	23⅞	23⅞
Weyerhauser	27⅞	26⅞
Whirlpool	28	33⅞
Woolworth	17⅞	17⅛
Xerox Corp	38⅞	38⅞
Zenith	12⅞	12⅞

Canadian Prices

	Nov 19	Nov 18
Abitibi	21	21¼
Alcan Alumin	26⅛	25⅞
Algoma Steel	41½	41
Bell Telephone	19⅞	19½
Cominco	50⅞	49
Cons Bathurst	18⅞	18⅞
Gulf Oil	19⅞	19½
Hawker/Sid Can	11⅞	11⅞
Hudson Bay Min	21⅞	21½
Hudson Bay Oil	47	47
Imasco	30⅞	30½
Imperial Oil	26⅞	25⅞
Int Pipe	15⅛	15
Mass-Ferguson	2⅞	2⅞
Royal Trust	15⅞	15⅞
Seagram	65⅞	65
Steel Co	28⅞	28½
Thomson N 'A'	22	22
Walker Hiram	21⅞	22
WCT	12	11⅞

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

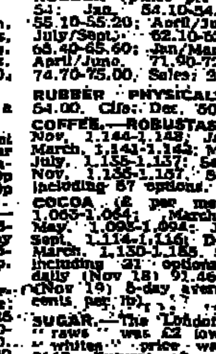
Commodities



COPPER was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash bars, £840-40.50 a metric ton; high-grade three months, £866.50-67.00. Sales: 5,625 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £839-40; three months, £862-62.50. Sales: 225 tonnes. Morning.—Cash bars, £845-45.50; high-grade three months, £870-70.50. Settlement, £845.50. Sales: 5,050 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £840-41; three months, £864.50-65.00. Settlement, £841. Sales: 425 tonnes.

TIN was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £8,340-45 a tonne; three months, £8,650-51. Sales: 820 tonnes. High-grade, cash £8,340-45; three months, £8,650-51. Sales: nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £8,344-45; three months, £8,650-51. Settlement, £8,345. Sales: 1,010 tonnes. High-grade, cash, £8,344-45; three months, £8,650-51. Settlement, £8,345. Sales: nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M35.75 a picul.

LEAD was steadier after easier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £332-33 per tonne; three months, £347.50-48.00. Sales: 7,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £334.25-34.50; three months, £350.50-50.75. Settlement, £334.50. Sales: 7,325 tonnes.



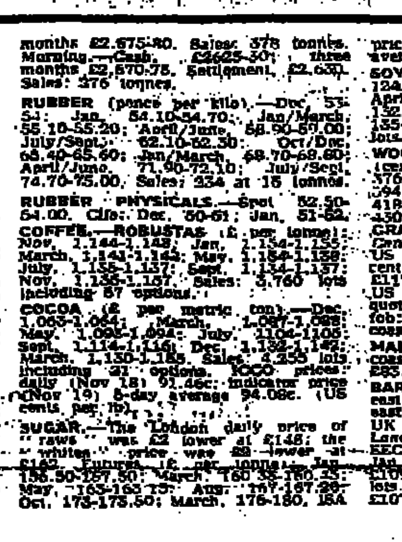
ZINC was firmer.—Afternoon.—Cash, £439.50-40.50 per tonne; three months, £452-53. Sales: 7,250 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £433-33.50; three months, £446.50-46.80. Settlement, £433.50. Sales: 7,950 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £198.90 ($381) a troy ounce.

SILVER was quiet.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 426.50p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 819.60); three months 440.50p (845.80c); six months 455.40p (870c); one year 485.30p (927.30c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash 425.25p; three months 440.5-41.0p. Sales: 16 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 425.5-26.0p; three months, 440-40.5p. Settlement: 425p. Sales: 353 lots.

ALUMINIUM was irregular.—Afternoon.—Cash, £542-43 per tonne; three months £566-66.50. Sales: 4,325 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £540.50-41.50; three months £564.50-65.00. Settlement: £541.50. Sales: 4,250 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,625-35 per tonne; three months £2,675-80. Sales: 378 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2625-30; three months £2,670-75. Settlement, £2,630. Sales: 376 tonnes.



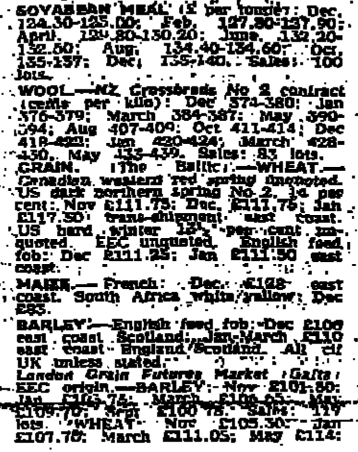
RUBBER (pence per kilo).—Dec, 53-54; Jan, 54.10-54.70; Jan/March, 55.10-55.20; April/June, 58.90-59.00; July/Sept, 62.10-62.30; Oct/Dec, 65.40-65.60; Jan/March, 68.70-68.80; April/June, 71.90-72.10; July/Sept, 74.70-75.00. Sales: 234 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot 52.50-54.00. Cifs: Dec, 50-51; Jan, 51-52.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Nov, 1,144-1,148; Jan, 1,154-1,155; March, 1,141-1,142; May, 1,154-1,138; July, 1,135-1,137; Sept, 1,134-1,137; Nov, 1,135-1,137. Sales: 3,760 lots including 87 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).—Dec, 1,063-1,064; March, 1,087-1,088; May, 1,098-1,094; July, 1,104-1,105; Sept, 1,114-1,116; Dec, 1,132-1,142; March, 1,130-1,185. Sales: 4,255 lots including 31 options. ICCO prices: daily (Nov 18) 91.46c. Indicator price (Nov 19) 8-day average 94.08c. (US cents per lb.)

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £2 lower at £148; the "whites" price was £3 lower at £162. Futures (£ per tonne): Jan 155.50-157.50; March, 160.35-160.35; May, 163-163.75; Aug, 167-167.25; Oct, 173-173.50; March, 176-180. ISA prices (Nov 18): daily 11.53c; 15-day average 11.86c.



SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne): Dec, 124.30-125.00; Feb, 127.80-127.90; April, 129.80-130.20; June, 132.20-132.50; Aug, 134.40-134.60; Oct, 135-137; Dec, 135-140. Sales: 100 lots.

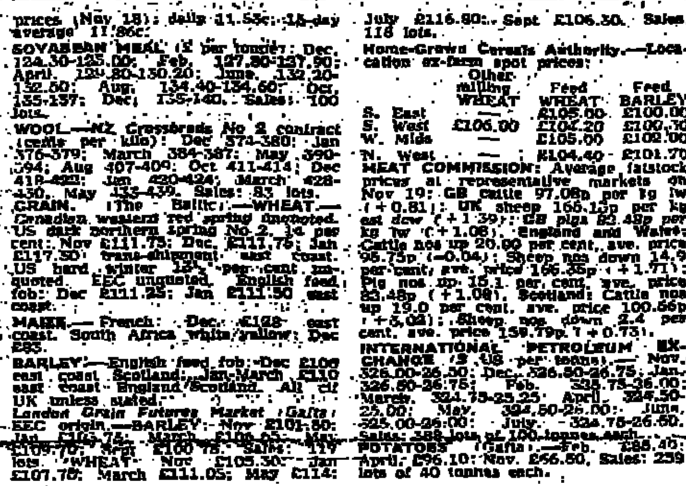
WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds No 2 contract (cents per kilo): Dec 374-380; Jan 376-379; March 384-387; May 390-394; Aug 407-409; Oct 411-414; Dec 418-420; Jan 420-424; March 428-430; May 433-439. Sales: 83 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Nov £111.75; Dec, £111.75; Jan £117.50; trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter 13½ per cent unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed, fob: Dec £111.25; Jan £111.50 east coast.

MAIZE.—French: Dec, £128 east coast. South Africa white/yellow: Dec £85.

BARLEY.—English feed fob: Dec £109 east coast. Scotland: Jan-March £110 east coast. England/Scotland. All cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—BARLEY.—Nov £101.50; Jan £105.75; March £108.65; May £109.70; Sept £100.75. Sales: 117 lots. WHEAT.—Nov £105.30; Jan £107.70; March £111.05; May £114; July £116.80; Sept £106.30. Sales: 118 lots.



Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£105.00	£100.00
S. West	£106.00	£104.20	£100.30
W. Mids	—	£105.00	£102.00
N. West	—	£104.40	£101.70

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Nov 19: GB cattle 97.08p per kg lw (+0.81); UK sheep 166.13p per kg est dcw (+1.39); GB pigs 83.48p per kg lw (+1.08). England and Wales: Cattle nos up 20.00 per cent, ave. price 95.75p (−0.04); Sheep nos down 14.9 per cent, ave. price 166.56p (+1.71); Pig nos up 15.1 per cent, ave. price 83.48p (+1.08). Scotland: Cattle nos up 19.0 per cent, ave. price 100.66p (+3.04); Sheep nos down 2.4 per cent, ave. price 159.79p (+0.73).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne).—Nov, 326.00-26.50; Dec, 326.50-26.75; Jan, 326.50-26.75; Feb, 325.75-26.00; March 324.75-25.25; April, 324.50-25.00; May, 324.50-25.00; June, 325.00-26.00; July, 324.75-26.50. Sales: 388 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £88.40; April, £96.10; Nov, £56.60. Sales: 239 lots of 40 tonnes each.

Cricket

Fletcher finally guides England to third successive victory

From Richard Streeton
Nagpur, Nov 19

There were some awkward *moments for England today before* they went on to beat the Board President's XI by five wickets in mid-afternoon and complete their third successive win. England *needed 136 for victory*, and with the pitch remaining difficult, their batsmen struggled either side of lunch. It was Fletcher who finally piloted the ship into calmer waters. He will play larger innings on this tour than the undefeated 35 he made on this occasion but they are unlikely to be more valuable ones.

It was the sort of pitch on which the team that loses the toss usually loses the match. In Fletcher's diplomatic words it was not a good wicket and it had therefore been a bonus that Eng*land had still managed to win*.

The crowd certainly sensed the degree to which England were struggling and roared encouragement to their slow bowlers and let off firecrackers at every opportunity. As an introduction to the uproar and atmospheric tension that await the newcomers in England's party in the Tests, it was marvellous experience.

It took England 55 minutes to separate the President's XI's last pair. Underwood and Emburey were the only bowlers used, and with an old ball, neither obtained the same assistance from the wearing pitch that the Indian spinners did later. Yashpal Sharma, who batted, in all, for two hours and a half, played some good strokes. He made no effort *to keep the strike and* Randhir Singh, with some ultra straight defence, gave little hint that it was necessary. It was almost a surprise when he offered no stroke to Underwood and was leg-before after 39 runs had been added.

This wicket gave Underwood match figures of 11 for 136, which brought him the Man of the Match award.

Several firm strokes by both England's opening batsmen against Binny, gave the touring team's innings a bright start. Cook, in particular, looked full of confidence and he continued to look sound when Gopal Sharma soon joined Kirti Azad in the attack. Gooch was more fidgety against the spinners and gave the impression of a man *needing a long prac*tice on a good wicket. Gooch was unfortunate to miss the Poona game—both in the one-day game at Bombay and here he has met unhelpful turf—*and he will* definitely be playing against West Zone in Baroda this weekend. Whatever happens there he has been told he is playing in the first *one-day* international at Ahmedabad next Wednesday.

England were 44 when Gooch in the eighth over misjudged Azad's turn as he pushed forward. In Azad's next over Cook, having hit six boundaries, was bowled behind his legs as he offered no stroke. Tavaré with some neat, upright hits had time to delude everyone he was in for a long stay when he was rather uncharacteristically out five minutes before lunch. He had been tempted more than once by Gopal Sharma's looping flight and finally jumped out *to play a forcing stroke* and was beaten through the air.

Gatting had a restless stay. Twice early on the entire President's team went up for appeals for catches off his pads though the umpire kept his head. The lunch interval did nothing to help Gatting, who remained tormented for 25 minutes afterwards before he mishit a sweep and Vengsarkar *was able to run from* backward short leg to take the catch at square leg. A more circumspect Botham than usual helped Fletcher add 36 vital runs. There were numerous nudged singles by both men before Botham opened his shoulders and hit Azad along the ground to midwicket for four. That took England to 100 in the thirty-second over.

Botham, next ball, hit another four from a full toss through the covers and when the left-arm Chopra replaced Gopal Sharma, he edged another four through *the slips. But off Chopra's second* ball, Botham was bowled trying to make room to drive. England still required 21 and Dilley, who had left the field earlier with a *stomach upset, managed to stay* with Fletcher to the finish.

Fletcher hit only one four but for 90 minutes was unruffled and never gave the ring of close catchers any hope. Azad, for the second time in the match, bowled with fine control and variety though he will not find the pitches in the forthcoming Tests *as helpful as this one*.

PRESIDENT'S XI: First Innings 202 (K Srikkanth 66; D L Underwood 6 for 64).

Second Innings

K Srikkanth b Underwood .. 1
S Rao b Lever .. 0
*D Vengsarkar c Botham b Emburey .. 25
J Arun Lal c Taylor b Lever .. 7
D Chopra b Emburey .. 35
Y Sharma not out .. 21
K Azad c Gooch b Underwood .. 21
R Binny b Emburey .. 10
G Sharma c Botham b Underwood .. 1
†Z Parkar c Gatting b Underwood .. 0
Randhir Singh lbw b Underwood .. 10
Extras (lb 4, n-b 5) .. 9
Total .. 176

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—1, 2—5, 3—10, 4—35, 5—75, 6—112, 7—135, 8—136, 9—136, 10—176.

BOWLING: Lever, [illegible]; Underwood, 24.4—7—72—5; Emburey, 24—5—76—3.

ENGLAND: First Innings 245 (C J Tavaré 51; K Azad 7 for 63).

Second Innings

G A Gooch b Azad .. 14
G Cook b Azad .. 30
C J Tavaré st Parkar b G Sharma .. 7
*K W R Fletcher not out .. 35
M W Gatting c Vengsarkar b G Sharma .. 8
I T Botham b Chopra .. 23
G R Dilley not out .. 5
Extras (b 5, l-b 4, n-b 1) .. 10
Total (5 wkts) .. 132

R W Taylor, J E Emburey, D L Underwood, J K Lever did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—44, 2—47, 3—61, 4—79, 5—115.

BOWLING: Binny, [illegible]; Azad, 19—1—71—2; G Sharma, 14—3—30—2; Chopra, 3—0—8—1; Y Sharma, 0.2—0—0—0.

Lillee quickly rescinds 'hasty' decision

Adelaide, Nov 19.—The Australian fast bowler Dennis Lillee, who was suspended yesterday for two *matches for kicking the Pakistan* cricket captain Javed Miandad, apologised today for the incident and said he thought now that "the whole thing is over". Lillee *added that he had been hasty in* saying he might retire from cricket *if he was suspended*. "I just want to play cricket and enjoy it," he said.

The incident which led to his suspension occurred during the first Test in Perth on Monday. Millions of television viewers saw Lillee kick Miandad after the Pakistani captain bumped into him when completing a run. Miandad then appeared to threaten Lillee with his bat as an umpire intervened. Lillee, who was here today to make a television commercial, *stressed his regret for the incident*.

Lillee also apologised to the Australian Cricket Board today.

In a letter to the board's executive director, David Richards, *Lillee wrote: "I would like to* take this opportunity to issue an apology to the Australian Cricket Board, to the Pakistan team and the Australian public for the incidents which occurred during the first Test in Perth.

"The incidents also set a bad example to children and for this, in particular, I am truly sorry."

Lillee's letter continued: "Contrary to what has been reported over the past few days, I will not retire.

"I love cricket. It has been my life. I have always given my best for *Australia* and *have been proud* to represent my country."

Lillee has been involved in several other controversial incidents on the pitch during his long career. He was almost universally condemned by Australian cricket commentators for Monday's incident.

The Pakistan team will take no action against Miandad for his involvement in the kicking incident with Lillee in the Perth Test. Their manager, Ijaz Butt, said in Melbourne yesterday that his team *believed Miandad was the innocent* party in the fracas.

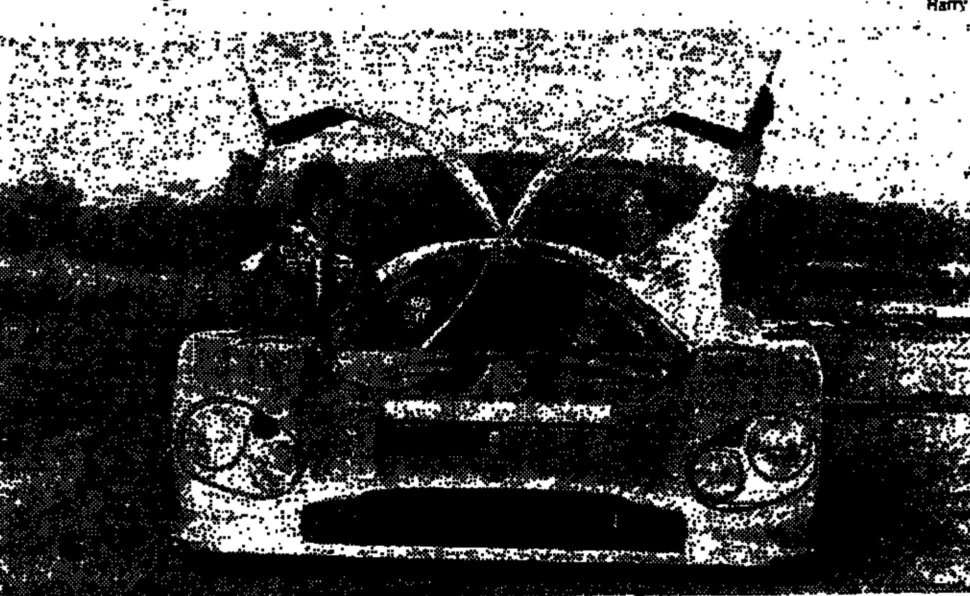
Mr Butt said: "I and the team feel that our captain's action of lifting the bat was a normal reaction to being kicked from behind. We have discussed it and in everybody's view, Javed was restrained. Others would have reacted differently. I will submit a detailed report of the incident and it will be put to our board for consideration. But we have had an assurance from the Australian Cricket Board that there will be no recurrence of the incident and we will carry on with the tour."

□ The Victorian all-rounder, Shaun Graf, has been chosen to replace Lillee in the Australian team *for the two World Series Cup one-day* international matches next week. Australia play Pakistan on Sunday and West Indies on Tuesday.

The inclusion of Graf, who has played for Hampshire, is the only change from the Australian team which beat Pakistan in the first Test in Perth this week. Graf has been recalled to one-day cricket after representing Australia in the limited-over games against India and New Zealand last season.

Captain's innings: Miandad did *not allow the Test incident in* Perth to affect his batting when he led the Pakistanis to victory in a limited-over match in the Melbourne suburb of Brighton yesterday. He hit 48 not out in the match against the Crusaders, a side of inter-State and Melbourne grade cricketers. The Pakistanis scored 139 for one in reply to the Crusaders 131 for three.—Agencies.

Motor racing



Harry Kerr

The way to a new era: Hunt (left) and Moss demonstrate the Nimrod Aston Martin.

Aston Martin return to scene of triumph

By John Blunsden

A new British challenger will be on the starting grid at Le Mans next June, which indirectly will mark the return of Aston Martin to the scene of their outright victory in 1959.

Nimrod Racing Automobiles is the title of a newly constituted team which has been formed by the Aston Martin chief executive and Pace Petroleum co-founder Victor Gauntlett, racing driver Robin Hamilton (son of the 1953 Le Mans winner, Duncan Hamilton) and the American financier and enthusiast Peter Livanos.

Their car, to be known as the Nimrod-Aston Martin, has been designed by Eric Broadley of Lola Cars in conjunction with Robin Hamilton and will be powered by a specially prepared version of the V8 engine developed by Aston Martin Tickford Ltd at their development centres at Newport Pagnell and Milton Keynes.

The intention is to have two cars in the Le Mans entry list, but the team's first car is expected to *take part in endurance races* at Daytona and Sebring, in the United States, early next year before making its European debut at either Brands Hatch in March or Silverstone in May.

Although no drivers have been announced for the new team so far, a predominantly British line-up is anticipated. It may have been significant that Derek Bell (*Le Mans co-winner this year with* Jack Ickx), Nigel Mansell and Tiff Needell were among the team's guests at Goodwood yesterday when the first Nimrod was given an initial airing by retired racing driver James Hunt.

After his demonstration laps on the Sussex circuit, Hunt, who admitted to having frightened himself once or twice, said he was very impressed with the performance of the car, which has been built around the new Group C regulations which comes into force for endurance racing next year. To add a touch of nostalgia, Stirling Moss was on hand to drive the famous Aston Martin DBSS *Le Mans winner*.

Although the Nimrod does not make full use of Grand Prix-style ground effects, its chassis design does permit a progressive use of this feature for short-circuit events and the design has also been conceived to accept alternative power units for use by other teams.

Special attention has been paid to ease of maintenance and track*side overhaul and the entire rear* section of the car, including the engine, transmission and rear suspension can be detached by releasing four bolts. The car also incorporates an in-built air jacking system. The engine output will vary between 550 and 600bhp, dependent upon the carburation or fuel injection system adopted, and the car will have to achieve a fuel consumption of at least 6.5 mpg to comply with the new regulations and to attain a top speed of around 225 mph down the Mulsanne Straight in order to be competitive at Le Mans.

Hockey

Lancashire set to score

By Joyce Whitehead

Valerie Robinson, the well-known England forward, will be playing for the first time for Lancashire Central League on Sunday. Lancashire Central League will play Durham and at Doncaster, Sheffield League play Yorkshire. These are two North County championship matches of some calibre. Last season Sheffield League lost to Staffordshire, the eventual winners, by the only goal in the semi-final.

There are two matches in the north tomorrow, Northumberland against Manchester League and Westmorland play the northern giants Lancashire. Last season, for the first time for years, Lancashire were not in the national county championship final, but tomorrow they may run up a high score. Westmorland draw on a relatively small number of players and suffer from a lack of good grounds. However, they are a united team and will make every possible effort.

The South have only one county championship match tomorrow, between Berkshire and Surrey at Bisham Abbey. Surrey have already beaten Middlesex 1—0, while Berkshire drew 0—0 with Hertfordshire. On Sunday the Midlands will be out in force. Derbyshire play Leicestershire at Rutland Recreation Ground, Ilkeston, Staffordshire play Northamptonshire at Tettenhall and Worcestershire play Shropshire in Evesham. Warwickshire play Nottinghamshire at Rugby and tomorrow, *all the Midland* junior county teams will play in a tournament at Rugby High School starting at 10.30.

Golf

Watson's title is under siege

Miyazaki, Japan, Nov 19.—Tom Watson, last year's winner, shared first place with six others after today's first round of the $350,000 Miyazaki tournament.

On the same mark as the American, West Germany's Bernhard Langer, Lu Hsi-Chuen of Taiwan, Katsuji Hasegawa of Japan and Craig Stadler, Mike Reid and Mark O'Meara of the United States.

LEADERS (US unless stated): 69, T Watson 33, 36; C Stadler 36, 33; M Reid 35, 34; M O'Meara 35, 34; B Langer (WG) 34, 35; Lu Hsi-Chuen (Taiwan) 35, 34; K Hasegawa (Japan) 35, 34. 70, T Purtzer 34, 36; H Clark (GB) 33, 37; T Ozaki (Japan) 32, 38; F Matsui (Japan) 35, 35. Other British scores: 72, S Lyle 36, 36; 78, K Brown 40, 38.

MELBOURNE: Australian Open championship, first round (Australian unless stated): 68, W Dunk. 69, J Newton. 70, G Player (S Africa). 71, E Ball, G Norman, W Rogers (US), M Holland, M Cahill. 72, T Gale, S Torrance (GB), J Anderson (Canada). Other British score: 73, M Bembridge.

Football

Revived England to flaunt their bulldog in the land of the bullring

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

As the dawn broke on England's resurrection in the World Cup, Ron Greenwood was at last able to look towards the Spanish horizon. As Kevin Keegan said after the decisive victory over Hungary at Wembley on Wednesday night: "We have been dead and buried so often but they keep digging us up. I thought that that was illegal."

Group four has proved the tightest, the most illogical and arguably the weakest of all in Europe. England's commitment, a traditional quality that has not always been evident during the last 14 months, in the end carried them through to the finals next summer on the most emotional night at Wembley since 1966.

Mr Greenwood, whose own position depended on England's qualification, now has until June 5 to decide which 22 individuals he will take with him. A caretaker who stayed on for four years, he has so far used 50 players in his 44 games as manager. Only three of those can now be put down in ink.

Keegan, the captain, is one. His face after Wednesday's game encapsulated England's spirit. Bloodied but unbowed, he had been followed throughout by Sallai, a ruthless youngster who was sent off in the under-21 game against England in June. Fouled at least a dozen times, Keegan still persisted in making himself available and his uncomfortable presence will spread fear through any opposing defence.

Robson is another. The most expensive player in the country, he will prove an invaluable asset for his country over the next decade. When his irresistible strength and energy shows signs of waning, he can drop back from midfield and call on the experience he will have gained to pour cement around the middle of the back four.

Thompson is the other. Having lost his usual partner, Watson, he remains the only centre half with any experience. It is no coincidence that since the home championships two and a half years ago, England in his absence have beaten only Australia. Although the Hungarians were disappointingly feeble, he brought a composed efficiency to England's defence yesterday.

Martin will be grateful for that. Mr Greenwood's one gamble in selecting West Ham's No 5 for his third cap may be the most significant result of all. Not only did Martin make only one error, a rushed tackle on the halfway line after 40 minutes that led to Hungary's first of two shots, but he also created the one goal that eased his own and his colleagues' nerves.

Butcher and Osman, the equally inexperienced pair at Ipswich Town, appear to be more comfortable in each other's company. The only time they have done so, at international level was in the relatively meaningless win over Australia last summer, and their club form this season has failed to make them outstanding candidates.

Behind that central backbone, Mr Greenwood's only problem is numerical. Any one of Shilton, Clemence, Corrigan and Parkes would be welcomed by almost every other side left in the competition. The Hungarians themselves would head the queue, although Meszaros, their punch-drunk goalkeeper, was not their only overrated performer.

The international careers of McFarland, Hunter, Currie, Peters, Chivers and Clarke all effectively ended the night that England lost to Poland in 1973. Eight years later others may suffer the same fate, even though they contributed to the final triumph. As Keegan said: "We accept that some of us may not be there in Spain, but, if so, what a way to go out".

Both full backs have almost as many years as appearances behind them. Again they had little defensive work to do on Wednesday but Mills must be glancing uneasily over his shoulder at Sansom and the youngsters lining up behind Neal include Swain and Anderson as well as Gidman, a forgotten man since earning his only cap four years ago.

Midfield is another area laden with possibilities. Brooking, at 33, is another elder statesman but his two goals in Budapest were crucial and he set up, albeit inadvertently, the chance for Mariner on Wednesday. "The only danger was to the cameraman" as he admitted later. Some of his touches were as elegant as they were dangerous, particularly when combining with Keegan.

Should an alternative be required, there is no need to look further than Brooking's own club, West Ham United, to Devonshire. The competitive displays of McDermott, Coppell and especially Robson cannot be faulted and Hungary's middle was almost trimmed. If Hoddle and Wilkins continue to wrap such aggression around their undoubted and rare talent, then they too must be considered.

Coppell, surprisingly the only victim of some distasteful fouls, was cut off by Toth, the full-back he was beginning to torment. It was the turn of Martos, the other full-back, to be exposed by the sheer speed of Coppell's substitute, Morley, whose bow was as brief as it was impressive.

Mr Greenwood has games against Northern Ireland at home and France, Wales, Scotland, Finland and, with FIFA's permission, Belgium next year in which to experiment. Other preparations are already under way. Admiral, the firm that supplies England's kit, will soon submit their world cup logo to the football association for official approval. The design could not be more appropriate. It is a Churchillian bulldog.



Robson: will prove an international asset for years to come.

Rugby Union

Academy master has time to cram pupils

By Iain Mackenzie

The appointment now of Ian MacGregor as manager of the Scottish party to tour Australia next summer is both apposite and sensible. This year Ken Smith was given only three months to prepare for the arduous tour of New Zealand and to some extent at least this relatively short notice may have contributed to the two international defeats. As a busy farmer he was scarcely able to devote all the time he would have liked to the important tour build-up.

The Scottish Rugby Union have learnt the lesson and Mr MacGregor, a master at Glasgow Academy, has more than six months to plan his campaign. The tour details have not been finalized but at least he knows where he stands.

There was criticism of the SRU this year when the tour of New Zealand was not combined with one of Australia. One reason it was not was that it was felt more would be gained by spending a reasonable length of time in each country on separate occasions rather than either rushing through both or having an extended tour which would put additional physical and financial strain on the party.

The result is that those players able, and chosen, to spend part of another summer on the other side of the world will leave Scotland on or about June 4, play their first match on June 9 (probably in Perth against Western Australia) and finish with the second international in Sydney on Sunday, July 11. The final itinerary will be agreed when the Australian Rugby Union secretary visits Murrayfield for the Scotland-Australia match a week before Christmas.

Mr MacGregor's task, from a personal point of view, will be made easier by the fact that although the same number of games are likely to be played with four in midweek and four at weekends and with considerably more ground covered in between, the tour is taking place slightly later in the year.

Unlike Mr Smith, he is not self-employed, and while the Highers and 'O' Levels are on in June, his part in helping pupils pass them will be over by then.

His own selection is appropriate also because for some time he has been convener of the international selection committee and has a thorough knowledge of the present squad and those youngsters with potential. He has been on the SRU's general committee since 1975 and on the selection committee since 1976. He took the chair two years ago and despite a period of ill-health has been anxious to continue in office.

Traditionally Scottish team managers are former internationals and Mr MacGregor is not an exception. He played as a wing forward (as the position was known then) for Hillhead High School FP and for Llanelli when he was stationed near there during national service in the RAF. Seven of his nine caps were won while he was with the Welsh club.

Mr MacGregor, who is in his late forties, has managed a touring side before, albeit on a rather different level. Scotland undertook a short, three-match tour of France at the start of last season and he was in charge then.

Rowing

Plan for spot drug tests on British team

By Jim Railton

The Amateur Rowing Association (ARA), that august and sincere body, were instrumental not so many years ago in the introduction of an international rule which in effect prohibited the drugging of boats. That, according to the ARA, could be achieved by shining the bottom of boats with a substance described as a long chain molecular compound.

It did not occur at the time to the ARA that while the chance of doctoring boats was slim, complicated and costly, the most likely targets for pills and needles were in fact oarsmen, oarswomen and even coxswains.

Over the last two years water athletes from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and Sweden have been caught taking drugs through tests carried out at the top three regattas by the international governing body (FISA). It is obvious, to all that the handful caught so far is the tip of the iceberg. Drug control is necessary to be effective during the long winter months of training. Nowadays athletes take drugs during training, stop just before the competition period and thus enjoy the benefits of their cheating without a trace of the drug remaining.

The ARA announced yesterday a scheme by which their International Rowing Committee will run a programme of spot tests for potential members of the 1982 Great Britain rowing team during the coming winter. The scheme will be financed by the Sports Council, the analyses will be carried out by the drug control unit of Chelsea College with Dr Peter Thomas, an Olympic oarsman in charge of the programme.

The ARA hope that their example will be followed by other sporting bodies at home and abroad. It is a noble gesture by the ARA but one which few governing bodies abroad will follow unless FISA dictate otherwise. The only weakness in the example set by the ARA is that the drug-testing is to be run by the International Rowing Committee itself which contains, I believe at least one active coach. A separate and unfettered control unit should be set up to carry out this work. I can imagine the joy of certain unscrupulous international rowing committees abroad if they were given the task of monitoring drug abuse by their own oarsmen.

The most useful part of the exercise so far, at the cost of the second-class postage stamp, is a current list of the drugs banned by FISA being sent out to competitors. I think many athletes will be surprised to find that what their general practitioners might prescribe as normal medical preparations contain drugs banned in international sport.

No safety in numbers for past finalists

By Norman Fox

The increase to 24 of teams appearing in the World Cup finals has helped to ensure that all but one of the countries who have won the trophy since 1930 will be in Spain. Ironically, the first holders, Uruguay, are the sole absentees.

Not that all the traditional powers in football have found comfort in the allegedly easier European qualifying competition. The Dutch will not be among the teams in Spain next June. They were runners-up in 1974 and 1978 but on Wednesday lost their way in a 2—0 defeat by France in Paris.

The result also caused despondency in the Republic of Ireland. Theirs is probably a better balanced and more talented team than any of the home countries, but it is France who will now almost certainly take the second qualifying position in the group away from them by beating Cyprus.

Present situations in the European groups are:

Group one: West Germany, unbeaten, concluded their programme on Wednesday with an 8—0 win over Albania. They will go to Spain among the favourites. They can also decide who joins them, Bulgaria or Austria, but they would have to be extraordinarily generous to allow Bulgaria to win by at least 6—0 in Dusseldorf on Sunday. That is the only way Bulgaria can qualify.

Group two: Belgium have qualified. On December 5 France will surely join them with a home victory over Cyprus who have conceded 25 goals in seven defeats.

Group three: The Soviet Union must be taken seriously in Spain. Their 3—0 win over Wales in Tbilisi on Wednesday was impressive. Their manager said they would play hard to beat Czechoslovakia in Bratislava on November 29. Czechoslovakia need a point to take the second qualifying place away from Wales who must rely on the Russians to be as good as their word. Only victory by the Soviet Union would save the Welsh who have played so encouragingly.

Group four: For anyone detained on the moon on Wednesday, England beat Hungary 1—0 to join the Hungarians in Spain but spare a thought for Romania, cursing Hungary's indifference at Wembley. Had Hungary won, Romania would have qualified.

Group five: Italy are through and Yugoslavia should be, too, after beating Luxembourg tomorrow.

Group six: Scotland lost their unbeaten record with a 2—1 defeat by Portugal in Lisbon on Wednesday but they were not concerned, having already qualified. The Portuguese, bottom of the group, badly needed compensation. Scotland's satisfaction was in a promising performance by Sturrock, who scored their only goal, but the loss of Gray with a shoulder injury and the absence of the regular goalkeeper, Rough, contributed to their failure to resist Portugal's second half efforts. Northern Ireland also qualify, having beaten Israel with a goal by Armstrong. Sweden, regular qualifiers in the past, miss out this time.

Group seven: Poland, who had already qualified, finished their programme with a 6—0 win over Malta last weekend, leaving no place for East Germany in a group of three and only one qualifier.

Teams from other areas going to Spain: Algeria, Brazil, Chile, Honduras, Peru. Argentina qualify as holders and Spain as hosts. The draw for the final competition will be held in Madrid on January 16.

FA concern over package deal tickets for Spain

By Our Sports Correspondent

Football hooligans, who have caused trouble throughout Europe cannot be stopped from going to the World Cup in Spain next year to support England, the Football Association secretary, Ted Croker, said yesterday.

The FA are concerned that distribution of tickets is being dealt with by one agency, Sportsworld Travel, who have been appointed by the Spanish organizing authorities. The agency, which will also deal with tickets for Scotland and Northern Ireland, who have also qualified for the finals, say the tickets will be supplied only to people who book package holidays.

In the past World Cup tickets have been issued by a consortium of travel agents in cooperation with the FA. Mr Croker said the only way to stop hooligans from going to Spain was for the FA to monitor ticket distribution.

Last year the FA appealed to the International Federation (FIFA) in an effort to be put in charge of the tickets. Officials of FIFA and the Spanish organizing committee met last November and Sportsworld Travel received confirmation of their exclusive rights to tickets in the United Kingdom.

Mr Croker said: "Sportsworld are offering complete packages which many fans will be unable to afford. It is clear that hordes of supporters will go to Spain without tickets and we would obviously prefer that their plans were laid in as responsible a way as possible." He said FIFA's decision was a "gross error of judgment".

He said the FA had "nothing specifically against Sportsworld" but the company was without experience in this field and was formed for the purpose of distributing tickets.

Misbehaviour by England's supporters during the European championship in Italy last year led to the FA being fined £7,500. Mr Croker said many had not travelled with the official England Supporters' Club. He fears that troublemakers will go to Spain without tickets. He said not all of the matches could be sold out so tickets would be available on the gates.

A spokesman for FIFA admitted: "We just do not know what we are going to do about the British fans. We must rely on the Spanish forces and police to control them."

Welsh ranks are open to sent-off players

Ian Stephens and Ian Eidman, who were sent off during Cardiff's match with Bridgend last month, have been included in the 32-strong Welsh Rugby Union party for the international game against Australia in Cardiff on December 5. The two props were dismissed by Clive Norling, a top referee, for collapsing scrums and Stephens's automatic one-month suspension caused him to miss Bridgend's victory over the Wallabies.

Aberavon's captain, Allan Martin, who was sent off for fighting earlier this season, has also been named, emphasizing that the selectors are not following the hard line pursued by the other home countries whose policy is not to select dismissed players. Eidman is one of 12 uncapped players in the squad, the major surprise of which is the omission of the Llanelli and British Lions centre, Ray Gravell, winner of 20 Welsh caps.

Gravell, who made his debut six years ago, was recalled for the final two matches of last season's championship and is the only player from those two games not to be selected this time. Only seven of the Wales B team that was beaten 33-9 by France B on Sunday are included.

Wales had a disappointing centenary season, winning only two of their five matches and scoring just two tries. In the championship they conceded 61 points, the most for 57 years, and no fewer than 30 players were used during the year. The half-backs, Gareth Davies and Terry Holmes, who were both injured last season, are now restored to full fitness and their return could make a considerable difference to the team's fortunes.

SQUAD: G O Evans (Maesteg), M O Wyatt (Swansea), R L Ackerman (Newport), M L Dacey (Swansea), Pat Daniels (Cardiff), Paul Daniels (Bridgend), A Donovan (Swansea), P Morgan (Llanelli), C O Rees (London Welsh), D Richards (Swansea), M Thomas (Aberavon); G Davies (Cardiff), T Holmes (Cardiff), G Pearce (Bridgend), G Williams (Bridgend), C Burgess (Ebbw Vale), M Davies (Swansea), I Eidman (Cardiff), R Lewis (Cardiff), A Martin (Aberavon), R Moriarty (Swansea), A Owen (Aberavon), A Phillips (Cardiff), G Price (Pontypool), M Richards (Neath), J Squire (Pontypool), I Stephens (Bridgend), S Sutton (Pontypool), J Thomas (Maesteg), G Wheel (Swansea), C Williams (Swansea), G Williams (Bridgend).

A golden rule is broken by All Blacks

Paris, Nov 19.—The All Blacks have made two changes in their team to face France here on Saturday in the second Rugby Union international of their tour. A Maori, Fred Woodman, comes in on the right wing and a prop forward, Paul Koteka, joins the front row.

Stu Wilson moves to centre, where he replaces the English-born Jamie Salmon; Koteka, making his international debut, replaces Rod Ketels. Doug Rollerson, who replaced Brian McKechnie at fly-half in the match last Saturday in Toulouse keeps his position.

The All Blacks have thus broken the golden rule—"never change a winning team." They beat France 13—9 at Toulouse.

Wilson will stay on in Italy for two months at the end of the tour to play for Milan in the Italian second division.

TEAM: A Hewson; F Woodman, S Wilson, A Stone, B Fraser; D Rollerson, D Loveridge; J Spiers, A Dalton, P Koteka, G Mourie (capt), A Haden, G Whetton, M Shaw, M Mexted. Replacements: A Donald, B McKechnie, J Salmon, H Reid, R Ketels, G Hold.—Agence France-Presse.

Egerton returns after injury

Dorset and Wilts, unbeaten in winning the southern group for the first time in 10 years, make one change for their county championship quarter-final match against Gloucestershire at Swindon tomorrow. David Egerton returns after injury and will play at No 8 in place of Mark Faltham.

DORSET AND WILTS: A Janes (Bournemouth, capt), R Clayton (Bournemouth), M Edwards (Bournemouth), C Evans (Salisbury), P Powell (Devizes); G Lloyd (Bournemouth), P Smith (Coombe Down); J Jackson (Bath), C Legg (Weymouth), R Neale (Bath), M Sayer (Bournemouth), A Marriott (Bath), T Jeanes (Weymouth), J Patching (Bath), D Egerton (Loughborough Students).

Illuminated Hampshire

Hampshire's rugby match with the Royal Navy on November 25 will be played under floodlights and not in the afternoon as first planned.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Denstone's 6, Colston's 7.

Real tennis

Young legs and a willing heart win the day

By Roy McKelvie

Two professionals, Jonathan Howell and Kevin King, were the first winners in the British open championships, sponsored by Unigate, which began at Queen's Club yesterday. Their victims were amateurs and, with the absence of Alan Lovell, the amateur champion, and his predecessor, Howard Angus, the professionals, including the world champion, Chris Ronaldson, looked like dominating the event.

Howell, of Moreton Morrell, beat his own club's leading player, David Verney, by 6—2, 3—6, 6—2, 2—6, 6—3 and showed that young legs and a willing heart can sometimes overcome experience even in this esoteric game. Long rallies, many of them well fought, told on Verney towards the end of the third set and later he began to subside in the middle of the fifth.

Nevertheless, Howell had to work wholeheartedly for his win, doing much more work about the court than his opponent. Even when up 5—2 in the final set, Howell could not regard himself as safe. Verney saved a match point at 2—5 with a force to the grille and a second in the next game with another to the dedans; brave strokes but unavailing as Howell beat him with a service on the third.

King, playing on his home court, beat Mark Drysdale, from Hampton Court, by 6—4, 6—1, 6—4.

FIRST ROUND: K King (Queen's Club) beat M R Drysdale, 6—4, 6—1, 6—4; J Howell (Moreton Morrell) beat L D Verney, 6—2, 3—6, 6—2, 2—6, 6—3.

Rival umpires unite

Britain's two rival tennis umpires organizations may regroup into a single association early next year. The Lawn Tennis Umpires' Association and the Professional Tennis Umpires' Federation are almost ready to sign away their independence and become the British Tennis Umpires Association.

Square-eyed view of the world

By Hunter Davies

I have packed the sun tan, ordered the sombrero and gone round the house shouting *olé*, just as every morning paper yesterday said I should do, but now what happens? I am shell-shocked already. How can I last out till next June?

Following England has been a strain. Following the people following England is even more exhausting.

We were all crowded into the back room, round a hot and steaming television set, being made to suffer before the ball had been kicked. "There's no going back now", John Motson, the BBC commentator, said. "Five minutes to go. . . .Hold tight. . . . Here we go."

We had not gone anywhere yet except up and down the lines of players during the national anthems. Wanted—dead or alive. Would you trust this man with your daughter? We fitted captions to every mug shot, noticed that the Duke of Kent had gone off at a trot. Could he be playing instead of Watson? They are about the same height, though the Duke did look quicker.

Only Phil Thompson and Alvin Martin appeared to be moving their lips during our national anthem. Would they turn out to be our only defenders of the faith? Or perhaps they are the only members of the team who know the words.

One of the things about watching at home is that close-ups are forced upon you, giving the ordinary special significance, so that you find yourself looking for omens, seeking out the signs. Steve Coppell looked dreadfully worried. What could that mean? His long face was justified when later he got himself carried off.

McDermott looked terribly cocky, waving to his fans or his mum in the stands. He did not look so cocky during the match, in fact I can hardly remember him except for a good volley that went wide. He is not a graduate like Coppell. Graduates, as we know, feel things deeply, even before they have happened.

I thought long and hard after Mariner scored that lucky goal, not about the sequence of fortunate events but our commentator who exclaimed in joy: "We're out of the wilderness and have got something to bite on."

Now is that strictly a mixed metaphor? Not really. They have not been mixed together, just one cliche added on to another. Could it be a malapropism? Answers on a postcard, please, to the Big Match, Goal of the Year, Save of the Century, Yawn of the Millennium, London, Wubbleyou, Doubleyou.

At half-time the three wise men came on. Oh, the years I have spent in front of the half-time pundits hoping they will make a prediction. Cloughy always sticks his open neck out but he was sticking it out elsewhere. Instead we had McMenemy, who was his complacent self, Bobby Charlton looking worried and Bob Wilson, who was thoughtful, thinking perhaps of some remark to cut Jimmy Hill's beam down to size.

None of them told us the final score. What is the use of having experts if they do not make fools of themselves? Let us hope they do better in Spain. The boys in the back room insist.

We all spotted that poor old Kev was spitting blood, did we not, long before the commentator even realized, and we all felt pretty clever. Motson was, of course, too busy giving the Hungarians yellow cards. He is such a help to referees. I do hope they are suitably grateful.

Did you hear the crowd shouting "If you all hate Scotland, clap your hands"? We analysed that for a long time. It made a change at least from the Wembley crowd hating England but did it mean they felt at last the equals of Scotland or was there implicit in that chant a slight feeling of inferiority?

My researches on the terraces over the decades lead me to believe that it is the cry of the underdog. What do you think, Brian?

There was a gem from Jimmy Hill, pounced on by all true collectors, when the news came through that Northern Ireland were one goal up: "We're still winning." Do you remember that time when Celtic alone were doing so well in Europe? It used to drive all Scotsmen frantic that Celtic overnight became a *British* team, not a Scottish one.

Afterwards we waited for Ron Greenwood to come on but he *did* not appear, not on my set. He was too busy telling the morning papers that he loves football, yes, football is what he cares about. Instead we got Kevin being very sincere, despite his bloody face.

Bob Wilson left us all with something to think about when he said the three most talented Englishmen were not on show—Hoddle, Francis and Sansom. Well done, Bob. You should have heard the abuse that brought out. I agree with him, speaking as a genuine expert, someone who sat right in front of the telly.

Yes, I was there, along with 20 million other experts, and we have got till June to tell Greenwood how to pick his team. But it is going to be a tiring time. So do not forget. *Olé* to bed, *olé* to rise. . . .

Worrying time for Welsh club managers

Wales' World Cup dilemma continued yesterday when they were fogbound in Tbilisi. Their Aeroflot charter was scheduled to leave at 10.30 local time but when the Welsh squad arrived at the airport they found it closed. The early indications were that it could be a long delay, which is a worrying prospect for club managers with Saturday's programme only 48 hours away.

Swansea have five players with Wales and back at the hotel, the club coach, Doug Livermore, admitted, "If we are stuck here overnight we will have to ask the League to call off Swansea's game at Manchester City".

Livermore, the number two to Mike England, sent a message to John Toshack, the Swansea manager, informing him of the situation.

Meeting approves paid directors

An extraordinary general meeting of the Football Association in London yesterday sanctioned a change to rule 43A (4) to allow clubs to appoint paid directors. The meeting approved by 522 votes to 28 a resolution by the FA Council permitting one paid director per club to take immediate effect. Jimmy Hill, the Coventry City chairman, described today's decision as "A gentle step towards change."

China in sight of World Cup finals

Kuala Lumpur, Nov 19.—China improved their chances of a place in the World Cup finals for the first time with a 2—0 victory over Saudia Arabia in the Merdeka Stadium here tonight. China's victory put them three points clear at the top of the four-nation Asia-Oceania qualifying group table.

China, who played their two games against the Saudis on neutral ground here because the two countries have no diplomatic relations, scored both their goals midway through the first half after a wave of attacks on the Saudi goal. Defenders got both goals. Huang Xiandong scored the first in the 24th minute from 25 metres and Cai Jingbiao headed the second from a corner three minutes later.

Thousands of youngsters joined in rallies in Peking immediately after the match, which was broadcast live on Chinese television.

ASIA-OCEANIA GROUP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
China	5	3	1	1	9	3	7
Kuwait	3	2	0	1	3	4	4
New Zealand	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Saudi Arabia	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FA CUP: First round: Bristol City v Torquay (8.0).

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Eastwood Town v Arnold.

RUGBY UNION: Penarth v Abertillery; Bedford v Northampton (7.15).

SQUASH RACKETS: British veterans championships (Leicester); British under-25 closed tournament (Kingston).

Rugby League

Carleton again being tempted to change codes

By Keith Macklin

The England Rugby Union wing three-quarter John Carleton, who last season resisted the blandishments of several league clubs, is again being pursued.

He watched the Wigan v Wakefield Trinity game last Sunday and it is understood that Wigan have made known to the player their interest in signing him. Hull Kingston Rovers are also believed to be chasing the signature of Carleton, who plays for Orrell, the lively club just a few miles from Wigan.

FIRST DIVISION: Widnes 24, Wakefield Trinity 18.

Tennis

BOLOGNA: International tournament: First round: J Granat (Czechoslovakia) beat A Panatta (Italy), 6—2, 4—6, 6—3. Second round: S Mayer (US), beat F Potier (France), 6—2, 6—3; T Mayotte (US), beat J Hoegsted (Sweden), 6—2, 6—2; C Barazzutti (Italy), beat R Pfister (US), 6—4, 7—6.

BANGKOK Classic: Second round: R Krishnan (India), beat M Edmondson (Australia) 6—7, 7—6, 6—2; V Winitsky (US) beat L Bourne (US) 6—1, 6—4; C Dunk (US) beat M Davis (US) 3—6, 7—6, 7—5. Quarter finals: V Amritraj (India) beat R Fawley (Australia) 6—3, 6—4; W Scanlon (US) beat C Mayotte (US) 6—2, 6—1.

PERTH: Women's tournament (US unless stated): Third round: L Allen beat C Bailey 6—1, 6—2; B Potter beat S Walsh 6—2, 6—7, 6—3; M Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat L Antonoplis, 6—1, 6—2; A Kiyomura beat V Ruzici (Romania) 7—6, 6—3; P Shriver beat E Pfaff (WG) 6—2, 6—2; J Preyer beat E Goolagong (Australia) 6—5, 6—3.

JOHANNESBURG: Women's tournament: R Fairbank (South Africa) beat K Einaldi (US), 4—6, 7—5, 6—3; V Wade (GB) beat R Uys (South Africa) 1—6, 6—2, 6—3; K Horvath (US) beat T Harford (South Africa) 6—4.

BUENOS AIRES: Grand Prix tournament: first round: G Vilas (Argentina), beat R Cano (Argentina), 6—4, 7—5; A Gomez (Ecuador), beat B Rajoux (Chile), 6—1, 6—2.

Squash rackets

Jahangir Khan through the Twin-Vue glass darkly

From Richard Eaton
Toronto, Nov 19

Revolutions happen rarely but it is likely that the world championships beginning here late tonight will with hindsight be regarded as one. Popular opinion has it that Jahangir Khan at 17, is slight favourite to beat Geoff Hunt, the world No 1 for most of the time since the early 70s. If the Pakistani does beat Hunt it is probable the Australian would retire even though Jahangir's camp would try to talk him out of it. Hunt has always said if he could no longer be No 1 he would finish. That would be the end of the steeliest and one of the greatest champions.

Even if, at the age of 34, Hunt manages to peak perfectly once again—and it would obviously be better if his rivalry with Jahangir were prolonged—Toronto 1981 should still be remembered as a land mark in the sport's struggle to be appreciated by spectators.

Twin-Vue glass is being used for the first time in a big event. It will provide television cameras and spectators with the unusual experience of being torpedoed amidships when a player sets himself to deliver a low kill.

The glass wall will allow spectators to see what has never been so intimately viewed before—an insight into a player's emotions as he wrestles with the conflicting demands of his body, his mind and his opponent.

The player, meanwhile, does not even sense the eyes watching him closely but sees only an expanse of dark grey that clangs rather noisily when struck. The black ball is also difficult to see during the yard of its flight immediately before and after striking the wall and Jahangir in particular did not seem happy with that.

But the formula has potential for all of that. An experimental blue ball was far easier to see. An orange one on a green wall—the dots can apparently easily be altered—would be clearer still. It might also prove a great attraction for colour TV, (this event is being broadcast coast to coast live for the first time ever). In the meantime players must soldier on with black ball on grey wall, so the knack of being adaptable—which Hunt does not lack—may yet prove a factor in deciding the world championship.

Hunt, as well as the leading English players, Gawain Briars, seeded 10, and Phil Kenyon, seeded 11, play tomorrow. Briars, who beat Kenyon in straight games in Winnipeg last week, should meet Maqsood Ahmed in the last 16 and Kenyon Hidayat Jahan.

Britain's ice dancers do not let the world go to their heads

Savouring the salt of the earth

One sympathizes with those who have applied in unprecedented numbers, but in vain, for tickets for the British ice dance championship now sponsored by Multi-Broadcast at Nottingham tonight. It is a long time since the world champions took part and never champions of the quality of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean.

To top it off there is a splash of civic pride since both skaters come from Nottingham and have handsomely repaid the financial support they receive from ratepayers through a council grant. As well, therefore, go in search of a Cup Final ticket for Wembley as find a way through the doors of the ice rink tonight. The BBC cameras will provide some consolation on Sunday afternoon.

The advance of Miss Torvill and her partner in the last year or so has been breathtaking. Fourth place in Europe and the world the season before last clearly held out the prospect of a medal of some sort, but for them to thrust back the might of the Soviet Union on both occasions and the Americans on the second to win the gold medals exceeded all expectations.

Could it have been a fluke? The thought nagged all summer. But the St Ivel competition at Richmond in September gave an echoing rebuttal. The new world champions were quite simply superb, specially when released from the constraints of the three compulsory dances, once regarded as their strong right arm.

Their original set pattern (OSP) dance—as the title suggests, their own creation—cast a haunting spell and their free dance was a whirlwind of technical expertise. Duty-drawn to The Hague for an international competition last week, I discovered how far and wide the ripples of appreciation had spread.

The OSP invites the skaters to devise their own dance, which requires three circuits of the ice over the same pattern. The music this year, to a blues rhythm, is in 4-4 time and the limits are set at from 20 to 24 bars to a minute.

Miss Torvill and Dean, together with their trainer, Betty Callaway, chose the slowest beat possible. This was to provide a distinct contrast not only to the much livelier tempo of their free programme but also to the expected offerings of other couples in the OSP.

To the accompaniment of "Summertime", performed by a single instrument, a melancholy harmonica, they conjure up an authentic atmosphere of lament, which, of course, lies at the heart of blues music and Gershwin's masterpiece.

The free programme is four minutes of dazzling bladework, dramatic expression, subtle body positions and explosive highlights. The gold costumes they wear seem only too appropriate.

Yet impressive as her couple were at Richmond, Mrs Callaway believes we have not seen the best of them this season. "We've made only small technical changes," she explained, "but they'll be able to get more character into it". Unlike some trainers, she is not a nervous spectator, but "I sometimes hold my breath when they come to a particularly demanding passage". This year? "I have so much confidence in them that I almost enjoy it", she replied.

Thrust progressively into the limelight, Miss Torvill and Dean, formerly insurance clerk and police constable, have matured as people. They come from ordinary backgrounds, properly regarded as the salt of the earth, and to begin with, four or five years ago, they were shyly reserved and dumbed by five-star hotel ambience.

Now they are totally at home in any company, which has included that of the Queen and the Prime Minister, and highly popular members of the skating fraternity. There is no sign of the world title going to their heads, nor did one fear it might, given the sterling quality of their characters.

Their international popularity can have only beneficial effects. "Judges are only human", Mrs Callaway says (thereby despatching one commonly held illusion), "and if they have no other way of separating skaters with their marks they would be more likely to go for the ones they like". As for the skaters, "it is a source of encouragement when you know so many people are pulling for you. It helps psychologically".

Curiously enough at a time of such strength at the top—another British couple, Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater, rank seventh in the world and a third, Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams, eleventh—there is an entry of only six for today's championship.

At least it has the advantage of presenting the whole event in one exhilarating evening performance, starting at 7.0. Wild horses had better not get in the way of a Marina speeding up the M1 an hour or two earlier.

John Hennessy



Once daunted by five-star hotels, Miss Torvill and Dean now daunt others with their five-star performances.

Boxing

How the maple leaf rose to the top of the tree after 50 years

From Richard Low
Montreal, Nov 19

The Canadian light-middleweight Shawn O'Sullivan was named the outstanding boxer for his hard fought win over the 1980 Olympic champion, Armando Martinez, in the World Cup that ended here yesterday. The North American entry of the United States and Cuba easily won the team title.

O'Sullivan, a 19-year-old university student from Toronto, beat his more stylish Cuban opponent with aggressive, slugging tactics, with little attention to defence, despite a swollen left hand suffered in his semi-final win over Oleg Kolladin of the Soviet Union. O'Sullivan beat Martinez on points earlier this year at a competition in Cuba, after the Canadian boycott of the Moscow Olympics precluded their anticipated meeting there. O'Sullivan became the first Canadian to win a world amateur title since the 1932 Olympics.

The Cuban Omar Santiesteban upset the Olympic champion, Petar Lessov, of Bulgaria, for the flyweight title and the Cuban Angel Herrera, the Olympic champion in 1976 and 1980, continued his domination of the light-weight class with an easy decision over Victor Rybakov, of the Soviet Union. The Moscow gold medal winner, Jose Gomez, of Cuba thrashed Yuri Torbet for the middleweight title.

Cubans won four of the North American teams five gold medals, as the vaunted challenge from the United States in the heavier weights fell short against the Russians in the final. The light-heavyweight Johnny Williams lost a two-three decision to Alexander Krupin, and the super-heavyweight Johnny Keys fell to Valery Abodzhan when the referee stopped the bout in the third round, after Keys had been knocked down. The heavyweight Carl Williams won the lone United States gold medal gaining a clear decision over Alexander Yagubkin.

The North Americans won the team competition with 41 points (one point to the winner of a preliminary and quarter-final bout, two points for a semi-final win and three points to the winner of a final). The Soviet Union came second with 36, Bulgaria third with 12, and Canada and South America joint fourth with 10 each.

Donald Hull, the American president of the International Amateur Boxing Association hopes to change the tournament format for its 1983 renewal in Rome or Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. He said he hopes the European federation will agree to send an all Europe selection as its second team, instead of the entire national runners-up team from the European championships, as was the case with the Bulgarians at Montreal.

Mr Hull also hopes that Asia and Africa follow the examples of Oceania and North and South America, and send only one team each. The Asian and African federation had insisted on two teams each for the World Cup, apart from the Koreans.

FINALS: Light-flyweight: I Mustafov (Bulgaria) beat Yong Mo Hoe (Korea), pts; Fly: O Santiestehan (Cuba) beat P Lessov (Bulgaria), pts; Bantam: N Maturana (Colombia) beat Chang Im Suk (Korea), pts; Feather: A Horta (Cuba) beat S Khachatrian (USSR), pts; Light: A Herrera (Cuba) beat V Rybakov (USSR), pts; Light-welter: V Shyshov (USSR) beat R Anderson (Canada), pts; Welter: S Konakbaev (USSR) beat R Lomski (Bulgaria), pts; Light-middle: S O'Sullivan (Canada) beat A Martinez (Cuba), pts; Middle: J Gomez (Cuba) beat Y Torbek (USSR), pts; Light-heavy: A Krupin (USSR) beat J Williams (US), pts; Heavy: C Williams (US) beat A Yagubkin (USSR), pts; Super-heavy: V Abodzhan (USSR) beat J Keys (US), third round.

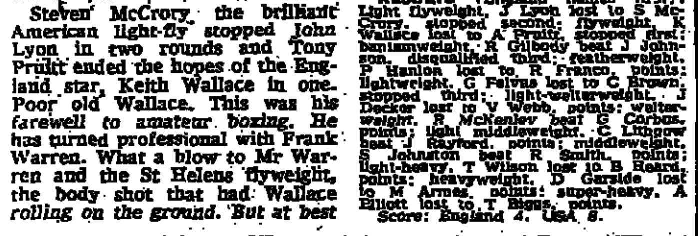
Wallace takes horizontal route to professionals

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

With 42 of their boxers campaigning on four fronts, in Poland, Canada, Yugoslavia and the British Isles, the United States yesterday showed their strength in depth when they beat England 8—4 at the Gloucester Leisure Centre

The American winners were in most cases in another class, though there were enough occasions when the traditional English courage almost denied class and warmed the hearts of the full house.

The experts had predicted that England would take the lighter four weights, the Americans the heavier five and the middle ground would be up for grabs. With that in mind it was rather like putting on a Mozart record and settling down only to find that you had put on Motorhead (the kids, of course). The Americans took all but one of the lighter weights and England more than their share of the heavier ones.



Steven McCrory, the brilliant American light-fly stopped John Lyon in two rounds and Tony Pruitt ended the hopes of the England star, Keith Wallace in one. Poor old Wallace. This was his farewell to amateur boxing. He has turned professional with Frank Warren. What a blow to Mr Warren and the St Helens flyweight, the body shot that had Wallace *rolling on the ground.* But at best the other man Mr Warren has signed, Steve Johnson, gained a majority decision over Randy Smith at middleweight.

The other English winners were Ray Gilbody at bantam, who beat James Johnson, the American being disqualified in the third round for persistent use of his head; Robert McKenley, who beat Glen Corbus on a unanimous points decision; and Cameron Lithgow, who also gained a unanimous points verdict against the much-vaunted James Rayford.

Lithgow's performance was the finest of the night of either side. He boxed beautifully and got stuck into the experienced Rayford, who was somehow never able to catch the Western Counties boxer in one spot long enough to put him away. But what was most heartening of all was that it was not just courage (and there was plenty of it) that kept Lithgow going, but sound boxing.

RESULTS (England names first): Light flyweight, J Lyon lost to S McCrory, stopped second; flyweight, K Wallace lost to A Pruitt, stopped first; bantamweight, R Gilbody beat J Johnson, disqualified third; featherweight, P Hanlon lost to R Franco, points; lightweight, G Felvus lost to C Brown, stopped third; light-welterweight, J Decker lost to V Webb, points; welterweight, R McKenley beat G Corbus, points; light middleweight, C Lithgow beat J Rayford, points; middleweight, S Johnston beat R Smith, points; light-heavy, T Wilson lost to B Heard, points; heavyweight, D Garside lost to M Armes, points; super-heavy, A Elliott lost to T Biggs, points.
Score: England 4, USA 8.

Gymnastics

World titles could all be won by Soviet Union

Teams representing Britain's best men and women gymnasts have already flown to Moscow to participate in the world gymnastics championships which begin on Monday. The event, which lasts a week and has attracted 37 countries, is the first major competition for members of the Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique since the Moscow Olympic Games of last year. Several western countries were then absent because of the historic boycott, but on this occasion, all the leading gymnastics nations will be present.

The event was originally planned for Mexico City, but last March financial restrictions compelled the Mexicans to withdraw as hosts. With time running out, the FIG, through its Soviet president Yuri Titov, accepted an invitation to hold the championships in the vast Olympiysky stadium which was one of the facilities prepared for the Olympic Games. The Soviet Union, therefore, have the advantage of defending three of the four main titles at stake on their own territory. They look certain not only to regain them, but also to win the fourth.

The men's individual title is held by Alexander Detiatin, aged 24, of Leningrad, who is also the *Olympic champion.* Any serious challenge to him will probably come from three fellow Russians — Alexander Tkachev, the European champion; Bogdan Makuts, the World Cup holder, and Yuri Korolev, European silver medalist.

Strength in depth should enable the Russian men to retain their team title which they captured from the Japanese two years ago. The Japanese have won this team championship on more occasions since World War Two than any other country, but it is *unlikely* that they will achieve more than the silver medal on this occasion. Close behind them will be East Germany and China, now a strong force in international gymnastics. The United States also may perform well.

The defection last March to the United States of their well-known national coaches Bela and Marta Karoly was a blow to Romanian hopes of retaining the women's team title. The new coaches, Anastasia Albu and Octavian Bellu, still need more time to produce a team

The British men, currently ranked in 18th position, have no *illusions about their chances.* After taking the squad through concentrated training at Lilleshall the national coach John Atkinson said: "While we have the best team ever to represent the country, it will be a hard battle even to achieve 16th position". In the forefront of the six-man team is the new British champion, Keith Langley, aged 20, of Coventry who at Moscow last year scored 9.9 for his vault, the highest mark ever for a Briton at the Olympic Games.

The British women's team, however, have a strong chance of improving their world ranking. If they can move up at least two places from their present position of 15th, they will become eligible to join an elite association of leading countries. The women also trained intensively at Lilleshall and the team coach Colin Still is aiming for 12th place.

On form, Britain's best woman gymnast is the national champion, Mandy Gornall, aged 17, of Preston, who is particularly expressive in all her disciplines. The six-girl team includes the experienced internationals Denise Jones, aged 18, from Manchester and Cheryl Weatherstone, aged 16, who lives in the United States.

After the team and individual overall titles have been decided, the eight leading gymnasts on each piece of apparatus will compete for medals in that discipline. For the men, the pieces are the floor, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar. The women will contest the vault, asymmetric bars, balance beam and floor.

MEN: T Wilson (Hendon), J Davis (Harlow), B Winch (Harlow), K Langley (Coventry), A Morris (Swansea), E Van Hoof (Luton), M Davis (Hendon—reserve).

WOMEN: M Gornall (Preston), K Williams (Manchester), D Jones (Manchester), L Young (Telford), H Price (Wolverhampton), C Weatherstone (Darien, Connecticut, USA), A Lockton (Perivale—reserve).

For the record

Football

UNDER 21 INTERNATIONAL: Spain 2 Netherlands 1 (at Orense).
B INTERNATIONAL: Spain 2, Poland 0 (at Zaragoza).
BELGIAN LEAGUE: Beringen 2, Beveren 2.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 5, Philadelphia Flyers 2; Washington Capitals 7, Colorado Rockies 1; Hartford Whalers 8, Toronto Maple Leafs 5; Chicago Black Hawks 4, Buffalo Sabres 3, Pittsburgh Penguins 0, St Louis Blues 1; Minnesota North Stars 6, Winnipeg Jets 4; Los Angeles Kings 8, Detroit Red Wings 1.—Reuter.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Houston Rockets 100, Boston Celtics 104; Philadelphia 76ers 102, Milwaukee Bucks 100; Atlanta Hawks 102, Phoenix Suns 97; Cleveland Cavaliers 110, Detroit Pistons 103; San Antonio Spurs 111, Seattle Supersonics 98; Los Angeles Lakers 113, Utah Jazz 110; Denver Nuggets 133, San Diego Clippers 128; Golden State Warriors 121, New Jersey Nets 107.—Reuter.

Billiards

NEW DELHI: World amateur championship: N Dagley (GB) beat D Sneddon (Scotland), 1,903—1,014; R Roberts-Thomson (Australia) beat R Close (GB), 1,137—1,069.

Volleyball

FUKUOKA, Japan: Eight-nation round robin 1981 men's World Cup: First day: USSR 3, Brazil 0 (15—6, 15—4, 15—3); Poland 3, Tunisia 0 (15—3, 15—8, 15—2); Japan 3, Italy 0 (15—10, 15—13, 15—5); Cuba 3, China 2 (11—15, 15—13, 11—15, 15—11, 15—9). Winners qualify for 1984 Olympic Games.

Racing

Francome establishes mastery

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The reasons why John Francome is firmly established at the top of his profession were plentiful at Kempton Park yesterday—horsemanship, jockeyship; strength and judgment of pace, he has them. After all the rain that fell on Wednesday, it needed maximum strength to get the best out of a *tired horse yesterday, and that is* what Francome did on Musso in the first division of the Vauxhall Novices Hurdle.

Having been beaten a neck and a head in his last two races, Musso deserved to get his head in front this time. On Man in the Middle, Francome showed what a fine horseman he is as the Hounslow Handicap Hurdle came to the boil. Man in the Middle looked like winning relatively easily but he fluffed the last jump completely and in a trice the advantage switched swiftly to Aleos. *But Francome gathered him* together quickly and drove him back into the lead on the run-in.

However, in the last race he was thwarted for a change by Richard Rowe, riding Bold Yeoman. Francome was on Plundering, and for a second or two after the last hurdle, I thought that his counter-attack might succeed.

It said something for Rowe's tenacity and coolness of mind that he was not ruffled when Francome flung down his challenge and in the end Bold Yeoman won strictly on merit. Earlier in the day, Rowe had also won the Teddington Handicap steeplechase for Josh Gifford on Sweeping Along, and again it was hard not to admire his cool approach.

Sweeping Along did not jump well on the first circuit, but Rowe remained unruffled. Eventually, the horse warmed to his task, *and the further he went the better he looked.* In the end, Sweeping Along had 15 lengths to spare over Spartan Major.

Bob Turnell had a race handed *on a plate to one of his* runners for the second time in as many days when the principal danger fell while looking like winning. On Wednesday, it was Bishop's Bow *who benefited* from Corrib Prince's misfortune. Yesterday it was Still Hope who was left with the Richmond Novices Steeplechase at his mercy when Fire Drill fell three fences from home.

With Derring Rose, Pollardstown, Bee Sting, Lady Reporter and The Tsarevich all standing their ground overnight, the Knights Royal Hurdle at Ascot today has all the makings of a rousing race.

Kirkstone Pass wears down the leader

By Michael Seely

David Gandolfo has struck a winning patch after a slow start to the season. Henry Kissinger gave the Wantage trainer his first success in the Mackeson Gold Cup at Cheltenham last Saturday. Dromoland Hill was successful at Worcester on Wednesday and yesterday at Towcester. Kirkstone Pass wore down the long time *leader The Coplow in the closing* stages of the Hesketh Challenge Cup to give Gandolfo his third victory in five racing days.

Kirkstone Pass carried the *colours of Graham Amey,* made famous by such good chasers as *Peter Scot.* Gandolfo said that Peter Scot had been hobdayed and pinfired since winning the Anthony Mildmay, Peter Cazalet Memorial Chase at Sandown Park last January. "Peter Scot's main *objective is the Welsh Grand* National which he won two seasons", Gandolfo said, "He will have his comeback race in the H and T Marie Elizabeth *Chase at Ascot on Saturday* when Henry Kissinger might also run in the Manicou Handicap."

Berkshire trainers won three of the six races on an afternoon when the punters were struggling. Apart from Gandolfo's success with Kirkstone Pass, Nick Gaselee won the Haig Whisky Novices Qualifier with Sirenia and Roddy Armytage the Showsley Handicap *Hurdle with Wings Ground.* Sirenia was bred by her owner, Nikki Schicht, at Withyham.

Miss Schicht bought Sirenia's dam Seawin and was awarded a point to point riding the mare after the disqualification of the winner. Sirenia was then mated *with Biskrah and the result was* yesterday's winner. The victory of Wings Ground was also a triumph for the small breeder. The filly's owner Colonel Anthony *Taylor keeps only two mares at* North Aston in Oxfordshire. Oca, the dam of Wings Ground, has now produced seven foals, four of which have been successful. These two stories are part of the romance of the winter game and shows where it differs from the Flat.

At Ayr this afternoon Avantie should represent the day's best wager in the 1.15. The five year old won a novice's event at Hexham by 10 lengths and can hardly be opposed with only 10 st to carry in the Fiveways Opportunity Handicap.

Ascot programme

[Television (BBC 2): 1.35, 2.05, 2.35 and 3.05 races]

1.0 BINGLEY HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £1,763: 2m)

102 0/00320- Icato, A Moore, 5-11-0 ... G Moore 4
103 Maori Venture, Mrs A Finch, 5-11-0 ... S Morshead
104 Michael Mear, J Thorne, 5-11-10 ... R Rowe
106 2p000/ Popsi's Joy, M Haynes, 6-11-0 ... —
111 u Centrebank, R Turnell, 4-10-9 ... A Turnell
112 0-3 Dumper, F Winter, 4-10-9 ... J Francome
114 Gay Tent, N Gaselee, 4-10-9 ... R Linley
116 00 Proserpina, P M Taylor, 4-10-9 ... S Keightley 4
118 0 Wild Pumpkin, P Ashworth, 4-10-9 ... R Berry 4

7-4 Dumper, 100-30 Popsi's Joy, 6-1 Michael Mear, 8-1 Gay Tent, 10-1 Centrebank, 12-1 Maori Venture, 14-1 Icato, 20-1 others.

1.35 HURST PARK CHASE (Novices: £3,681: 2m)

201 10000-1 Run With Pride, M O'Toole, 6-11-7 ... N Madden
202 013-142 Sea Image (D), F Winter, 6-11-7 ... J Francome
203 21142-4 Crimson Embers (B), F Walwyn, 6-11-4 ... S Shilston
204 2430-00 Fauloon, F Walwyn, 6-11-4 ... W Smith
205 21124-3 King Ba Ba, A Wates, 6-11-4 ... A Webber
206 0d1- Royal Pine, S Mellor, 6-11-4 ... P Blacker
207 2 Bright Dream, R Turnell, 5-11-1 ... A Turnell

2-1 Sea Image, 3-1 King Ba Ba, 5-1 Run With Pride, Fauloon, 8-1 Crimson Embers, 12-1 Bright Dream, 14-1 Royal Pine.

2.05 CHARLES DAVIS CHASE (Handicap: £4,471: 2m)

301 200-11u Marshal Night (D), J Gifford, 6-11-12 ... R Rowe
302 f002p-4 Neon Light (D), J Edwards, 9-11-4 ... P Blacker
304 313-112 Washington Heights (D), F Walwyn, 6-11-3 ... W Smith
306 f3003-0 Breemount Don (C, D), F Winter, 8-11-0 ... J Francome
307 2p22-42 Reldis (D), D Gandolfo, 7-11-0 ... P Barton
308 00-0321 Persian Wanderer, N Henderson, 8-11-0 ... Mr C Bealby 7
310 220-333 Ulmar, N Gaselee, 6-10-3 ... R Linley
311 32f4-10 Famous Footsteps, Miss A Sinclair, 6-10-2 ... B de Haan
313 4223-00 Devil's Brig (D), R Shaw, 10-10-0 ... Mr P Nicholls 7

15-8 Reldis, 3-1 Neon Light, 4-1 Washington Heights, 13-2 Marshal Night, 10-1 Ulmar, 14-1 others.

2.35 KNIGHTS ROYAL HURDLE (£3,843: 2½m)

402 2211f-p Derring Rose (C, B), F Winter, 6-11-8 ... J Francome
405 22221-2 Pollardstown (B), S Mellor, 6-11-8 ... P Blacker
407 31221- Bee Sting (CD), P Harris, 5-10-13 ... H Davies
408 0440-12 Lumen (D), J Gifford, 6-10-13 ... R Champion
409 0232-04 Bicklelgh Bridge, R Hodges, 7-10-8 ... M O'Halloran
412 1-00111 Lady Reporter (D), L Browne, (IRE), 6-10-8 ... T Carmody
414 1332-01 The Tsarevich (C), N Henderson, 5-10-8 ... B R Davies

8-11 Pollardstown, 9-2 The Tsarevich, 6-1 Lady Reporter, 15-2 Derring Rose, 10-1 Bee Sting, 14-1 others.

3.05 "RIP" CHASE (Handicap: £4,729: 3m)

502 022-214 River Sirene (D), T Barron, 8-11-10 ... S Charlton
503 f140p-4 Major Swallow, F Winter, 6-11-10 ... J Francome
505 143124- Hard Outlook (D), A Wates, 10-11-9 ... A Webber
507 00p-412 Star Member, R Hawker, 6-11-7 ... E Waite 4
508 2f2-2b3 Cisto, D Thom, 6-11-6 ... P Scudamore
509 2-322u0 Ballyspillane (D), F Walwyn, 7-11-1 ... Mr M Bradstock 7
511 211-1df Ta Jetta, J Gifford, 6-10-13 ... R Rowe
512 3112p-0 Mr Darkie (D), R Shaw, 6-10-10 ... Mr P Nicholls 7
513 00010-p Dancing-in-Irish, J Old, 9-10-10 ... Candy

9-4 Cisto, 7-2 Ta Jetta, 6-1 Major Swallow, 8-1 Star Member, Hard Outlook, 10-1 Ballyspillane, 14-1 River Sirene, 16-1 others.

3.40 BINGLEY HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £1,727: 2m)

601 423121 Skehaens (B, D), J Edwards, 6-11-10 ... P Blacker
607 230- Half Free, F Winter, 5-11-0 ... J Francome
608 Laska Floko, R Smyth, 5-11-0 ... R G Hughes
609 f Sindebele, F Walwyn, 5-11-0 ... S Shilston
610 0/ Young Hansel, D Nugent, 6-11-0 ... S Jobar
611 Champagne Charlie, P M Taylor, 4-10-9 ... S Keightley 4
612 2 Killing Time, J Gifford, 4-10-9 ... R Rowe
613 00 Mirror Boy, H Price, 4-10-9 ... C Gwilliam 4
614 Salthouse, N Callaghan, 4-10-9 ... S McNeill

7-4 Sindebele, 100-30 Half Free, 11-2 Skehaens, 13-2 Killing Time, 10-1 Laska Floko, 12-1 Champagne Charlie, 14-1 Mirror Boy, 16- others.

Ascot selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.0 Dumper. 1.35 King Ba Ba. 2.5 Neon Light. 2.35 Pollardstown. 3.5 Major Swallow. 3.40 Half Free.

Ayr programme

1.15 FIVEWAYS OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Handicap: £853: 2m)

1 13-410 Shalotra (D), T Craig, 5-11-12 ... G Wilkinson
4 42430- Hodson Hero (D), R Fisher, 5-11-9 ... K Teelan
8 0000/30 Hasten God, G Lockerbie, 8-11-1 ... K Adshead
9 2p0p-0 Jean Marjorie (D), J Kettlewell, 6-10-10 ... S Kettlewell
10 300-03 Lunar Wind, J Parkes, 6-10-8 ... M Pepper
12 0002 Vimys Pet, T Barnes, 4-10-1 ... D Johnston
13 040-01 Avantie (D), J S Wilson, 5-10-0 ... —

3-1 Avantie, 100-30 Lunar Wind, 7-2 Shalotra, 5-1 Hodson Hero, 13-2 Vimys Pet, 8-1 Hasten God, 14-1 Jean Marjorie.

1.45 GATEHEAD HURDLE (Div I: novices: £674: 2m)

4 -13000 Charlie's Sunshine, J Townson, 4-11-3 ... J Hansen 7
5 21 Raconteur, M H Easterby, 4-11-3 ... Mr T Easterby
10 p/00-0 Jazzman, M Naughton, 5-11-0 ... G Bradley 4
11 000-2 Kenbally, I Ferguson, 5-11-0 ... M Lynch
13 00u-0p Prince Weasel, J Boyers, 5-11-0 ... Mr E Bolger 7
14 Super Solo, G Richards, 5-11-0 ... R Barry
15 Ballydurrow, R Fisher, 4-10-10 ... D Goulding
17 Disco Queen, J Kettlewell, 4-10-10 ... S Kettlewell 7
19 00-0 Maison D'Or, J Haldane, 4-10-10 ... Mr J Walton

4-5 Raconteur, 100-30 Kenbally, 6-1 Super Solo, 8-1 Ballydurrow, 10-1 Prince Weasel, 14-1 others.

2.15 MAUCHLINE CHASE (Handicap: £1,721: 2m)

1 311202 Harnal (D), J Boyers, 7-11-10 ... Mr E Bolger 7
2 21-404 Why So (D), Denys Smith, 8-11-5 ... R Barry
3 0-00011 Bannow Breeze (D), E Bradley, 9-11-5 ... G Bradley 4
4 00-011 Leirum (D), P Calver, 10-11-4 ... C Tinkler
5 u100f Dusky Duke (D), W A Stephenson, 6-11-2 ... R Lamb
8 22-211 Trearale (D), T Barnes, 6-10-11 ... M Barnes
9 0141u- Quay Man (D), J S Wilson, 6-10-7 ... C Grant
10 0-32044 Dr Guillotine, W Fairgrieve, 6-10-2 ... N Doughty

3-1 Harnal, 100-30 Bannow Breeze, 7-2 Trearale, 5-1 Leirum, 11-2 Why So, 9-1 Dusky Duke, 16-1 others.

2.45 SYMINGTON HURDLE (Handicap: £883: 2½m)

1 02124- Tall Order, L Foster, 7-11-10 ... Mr R Foster
2 12-f00 Gunsmith, R Dixon, 8-11-8 ... Mr B Storey 7
3 03020 Pickmore, G Richards, 4-11-6 ... Mr K Darby
5 30030- Winning Brief, M Naughton, 5-11-1 ... G Bradley 4
8 4b2000 Saucy Eater, T Barnes, 8-10-13 ... M Barnes
10 -10000 Pretty Boy Floyd, G Lockerbie, 9-10-10 ... A Stringer 4
11 3200p-0 Nodens, T Craig, 5-10-9 ... C Hawkins
12 0-41300 Who's Free, T Cuthbert, 6-10-6 ... D McCaskill 4
13 000/104 Artsum, R Allan, 6-10-6 ... C Grant
16 pp000-0 Tel Brig (C), G Renilson, 9-10-0 ... D Atkins

3-1 Tall Order, 4-1 Pickmore, 5-1 Winning Brief, 6-1 Saucy Eater, 7-1 Pretty Boy Floyd, 8-1 Gunsmith, 10-1 Who's Free, 14-1 others.

3.15 DRYBRIDGE CHASE (Novices: £1,400: 3m)

1 041-ff1 Blue Reef, W A Stephenson, 6-11-6 ... R Lamb
2 320-f1 Mr Shugs, K Oliver, 6-11-5 ... Mr T G Dun
4 421/32f- Dorisimo, G Richards, 6-11-0 ... N Doughty
7 -22223/0. Jonathans Choice, D Robertson, 7-11-0 ... Mr D Robertson
9 0-pf Palmum, T Craig, 7-11-0 ... C Hawkins
12 3110-2 Realt Na Nona, M H Easterby, 6-11-0 ... Mr T Easterby
14 0-f Secret Arrival, P Monteith, 6-11-0 ... D Nolan
15 f0/p-00 Slasher, G Fairbairn, 7-11-0 ... C Grant
16 20000/p Billie Burn, W Tuffie, 5-10-12 ... Mr J M Dun 7

Evens Realt Na Nona, 3-1 Mr Shugs, 4-1 Blue Reef, 5-1 Dorisimo, 12-1 others.

3.45 GATEHEAD HURDLE (Div II: novices: £666: 2m)

1 213310 Barbeque Night (D), T Barnes, 5-11-7 ... M Barnes
2 00p213 Gamelek (D), J Boyers, 5-11-7 ... Mr E Bolger 7
3 p2-031 Gun, R Fisher, 4-11-3 ... D Goulding
5 0-3400 Imperial Amber, M Naughton, 5-11-0 ... G Bradley 4
8 00- Pamash, D Robertson, 5-11-0 ... Mrs A Robertson
9 03-030 Wingetts, A W Jones, 5-11-0 ... R Barry
10 4-4 Young Ash Linn, R McDonald, 5-11-0 ... B Holohan 7
13 f0 Emco, J S Wilson, 4-10-10 ... A Stringer 4
14 u0 Fine Point, Denys Smith, 4-10-10 ... C Grant
15 0p- Frazer's Friend, J Kettlewell, 4-10-10 ... S Kettlewell 7
16 0u0-00 High Kype, J S Wilson, 4-10-10 ... A Dickman
17 02 Major Tom, P Keatley, 4-10-10 ... M Lynch
18 000 Willerby, T Craig 4-10-10 ... R Lamb

3-1 Gamelek, 100-30 Gun, 5-1 Wingetts, 6-1 Young Ash Linn, 7-1 Major Tom, 9-1 Imperial Amber, 10-1 Barbeque Night, 16-1 others.

Ayr selections

By Michael Seely
1.15 AVANTIE is specially recommended. 1.45 Raconteur. 2.15 Leirum. 2.45 Winning Brief. 3.15 Realt Na Nona. 3.45 Young Ash Linn.

Kempton Park results

12.45 (12.46) VAUXHALL HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £892: 2½m)
MUSSO, ch g, by Meneick—Suvonne (R E A Bott (Wigmore Stud) Ltd), 5-11-0 J Francome (10-11 fav) 1
Another Generation R Rowe (11-8) 2
Magic Night Mr O Sherwood (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 19p; places, 11p, 10p, 39p. Dual F: 11p. CSF: 24p. F Winter at Lambourn. Nk, bad. Oliver Hardy (50-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Down to Darkie.

1.16 (1.17) RICHMOND CHASE (Novices: £1,519: 2m)
STILL HOPE, gr g, by No Mercy—Shilly Shally (Sir H Calley), 5-11-2 .... Steve Knight (5-2) 1
St Alezan .. S Morshead (6-1) 2
Salimnos .. O Sherwood (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 27p; places, 11p, 15p, 73p. Dual F: 66p. CSF: £1.73. A R Turnell at Marlborough. 2l, 15l. Firedrill 7-4 fav. Saldaiore (12-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Van Hagen.

1.45 (1.47) TEDDINGTON CHASE (Handicap: £2,230: 3m)
SWEEPING ALONG, b g, by Deep Run—Wingalong (Mrs M Slade), 8-11-10 .... R Rowe (7-4 fav) 1
Spartan Major S Morshead (15-8) 2
TOTE: Win, 23p. Dual F: 23p. CSF: 50p. J Gifford at Findon. 15l. 5 ran.

2.15 (2.18) HOUNSLOW HURDLE (Handicap: £1,245: 2m)
MAN IN THE MIDDLE ch g by Good Bond—Sharp Work (P Hutson), 5-10-10, bl J Francome (5-2 jt fav) 1
Aleos, Mr E Whettam (5-2 jt fav) 2
Royal Commotion S Morshead (13-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 30p; places, 15p, 20p; Dual F: 48p. CSF: 85p. D Sasse, at Upper Lambourn. ½l, ½l. Wadi All (4-1) 4th. 7 ran. NR: Acapulco Gold.

2.45 (2.46) STAINES CHASE (Handicap: £2,033: 2½m)
BEECHEY BANK, ch g, by Fury Royal—Sally Furlong (H Joel), 7-11-0 ...... A Turnell (5-2) 1
Lucky Call, Mr O Sherwood (15-2) 2
Gay Invader, J Francome (13-8 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 30p; Dual F: 92p. CSF: £1.85. A R Turnell, at Marlborough. 5l, 30l. 5 ran. NR: Spin Again.

3.15 (3.16) VAUXHALL HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £890: 2½m)
BOLD YEOMAN, ch c, by Little Buskins—Bowers (Mrs H Alwan), 5-11-0 .. R Rowe (3-1) 1
Plundering, J Francome (11-10 fav) 2
Capping ...... G McCourt (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 40p; 15p, 10p, 20p. Dual F: 27p. CSF: 66p. J Gifford at Findon. ½l, 8l. My Snip (5-1) 4th. 8 ran.

TOTE DOUBLE: Sweeping Along and Beechey Bank, £10.50. TREBLE: Still Hope, Man in the Middle and Bold Yeoman, £23.85. PLACEPOT: £15.55.

Taunton

1.0 (1.01) NECKTIE HURDLE (Div I: novices: £414: 2m 3f)
ALL OUR YESTERDAYS b f by Jimsun—Metis (4-10-7) Mr M Low (14-1) 1
Porcupine Basin P Warner (9-2) 2
New Note S Keightley .... (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.43; places, 37p, 21p, 27p. Dual F: £4.19. CSF: £7.63. M Low at Malvern. 2½l, 2½l. Original Step (5-2 fav) 4th. 19 ran. NR: Bold Aura.

1.30 (1.32) HEADSCARF HURDLE (Selling: £410: 2m)
TOATLEY ABLE, ch g, by Sir Lark—Catherine Star, 4-11-6 Lorna Vincent (50-1) 1
Sovereign Shot M O'Halloran (4-1) 2
Carflax (USA) Mr J Frost (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.92; places, 39p, 25p, 37p. Dual F: £17.92. CSF: £23.49. R Keenor, at Chulmleigh. 4l, 5l. Budds 2-1 fav. Sombrero (3-1) 4th. 14 ran. Winner was bought in for 750 Guineas.

2.0 (2.03) CANNON ASSURANCE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,318: 2m 3f)
HEVER, br g, by Tudor Melody—Queen's Castle, 6-10-13 P Leach 5-2 Fav) 1
Autoway .. George Knight (16-1) 2
Bristol Blue S Keightley (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win: 46p, places: 15p, 61p, 33p, 44p. Dual F: £3.05. CSF: £3.96. M. Pipe at Wellington. 12l, 6l. Furlong Lane (33-1) 4th, 19 ran.

2.30 (2.32) NOVEMBER CHASE (Handicap: £1,498: 2m 3f)
RICHMEDE, gr g, by Runnymede—Scilly Isles 8-11-10 P. Hobbs (5-2) 1
Think Big ...... R Hyett (7-2) 2
Mister Cool S Cargeeg (7-4 Fav) 3
TOTE: Win: 32p, places 15p, 14p, 11p. Dual F: £1.16. CSF: £1.12. M Stephens at Taunton. 2½l, 4l. Woodham (12-1) 4th. 8 ran.

3.0 (3.02) GENERAL ROCK, ch g, by Spartan General—Kate's Chalet 6-11-3 M Coyle (16-1) 1
Drops O'Brandy P Warner (7-1) 2
Mullaboden .... S Jobar (11-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.13, places, 20p, 19p, 29p. Dual F: £3.51. CSF: £11.97. M Stephens at Taunton. 1l, 4l. Selection Trust, 2-1 fav. Friar Tuck, (50-1) 4th. 11 ran. NR: Oatley Pride.

3.30 (3.31) NECKTIE HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £414: 2m 3f)
CROWNING MOMENT, br g, by Royalty—Moment Supreme 6-11-7 M Williams (5-2 Jt Fav) 1
Pickled Tink Mrs L Sheedy (10-1) 2
Winterland ...... R Hoare (9-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 36p; places, 13p, 26p, 24p. Dual F: £1.05. CSF: £2.65. Wardle at Wells. 3l, 25l. Dazzal 5-2 Jt Fav. Cumberland Basin (14-1) 4th 16 ran. NR: Braid and My Snip.
PLACEPOT: £181. POOL: £880.

Leopardstown racecourse is seeking a new sponsor for the Champion Hurdle on February 13, Frank Smyth, the racecourse manager, said: "Erin Foods have *reluctantly withdrawn their support.* This has been brought about by a change in their overall marketing policies" The Champion Hurdle has been sponsored by a subsidiary of the Irish sugar company for the past five years.

STATE OF GOING (official): Ascot: Good. Ayr: Good. Tomorrow: Catterick: Good.

Towcester

1.0 (1.2) SYRESHAM HURDLE (Selling handicap: £424: 2m 5f 25yd)
MANAWA, b m, by Mandamus—Roseberry (P Hawken), 5-10-12 J Akehurst (2-1 fav) 1
Summercove .... M Perrett (5-1) 2
Emperor Napoleon N Coleman (9-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 26p; places, 12p, 15p, 39p. Dual F: 55p. CSF: £1.14. A Davison. 2½l, 4l. Rickford Choice (20-1) 4th. 12 ran. The winner was bought in for 900 guineas.

1.30 (1.31) SLAPTON CHASE (Novices: £924: 2m 50yd)
TOM SCOLEY, b g, by Hardraw Scar—O.G. (J Caswell), 8-11-3 R Champion (8-1) 1
Law Venture .... C Brown (9-1) 2
Ossalla ... P Scudamore (100-30) 3
TOTE: Win, 62p; places, 12p, 24p, 17p. Dual F: £5.65. CSF: £8.27. J Old at Salisbury. Nk, 1½l. Vermeents (5-4 fav), Port Askaig (8-1) 4th. 10 ran.

2.0 (2.3) SHOWSLEY HURDLE (Handicap: £1,366: 2m)
WINGS GROUND, ch f, by Murrayfield—Oca (Col A Taylor), 4-10-1 A Webber (25-1) 1
Lord John .. R Linley (4-1 jt fav) 2
Rolleston .... P Tuck (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.31; places, 29p, 24p, 18p. Dual F: £3.61. CSF: £11.86. R Armytage at East Ilsley. Nk, 1l. Beaminster (4-1 jt fav), Filletts Farm (8-1) 4th. 14 ran.

2.30 (2.32) HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Qualifier: Novices: £1,216: 3m)
SIRENIA b f by Biskrah—Seawin (Miss N Schicht), 4-10-10 R Linley (14-1) 1
Mt Tamaso .... P Haynes (5-1) 2
Berkeley Lad .. H Davies (11-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 96p; places, 20p, 11p, 31p. Dual F: £4.12. CSF: £8.62. N Gaselee at Lambourn. 1½l, 2½l. Sunny Spring (2-1 fav). Crafty Look (33-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Archie Slogan.

3.0 (3.1) HESKETH CHASE (Handicap: £1,044: 3m 190yd)
KIRKSTONE PASS br g by Royal Highway—Sharp Awakening (G Amey) 8-11-3 P Barton (5-2) 1
The Coplow Mr W Bennion (7-2) 2
Wool Merchant A Medwick (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 35p; places, 15p, 14p, 27p. Dual F: 63p. CSF: £1.21. D Gandolfo at Wantage. 5l, 20l. 10 ran.

3.30 (3.31) MARCHMONT HURDLE (3-y-o Juvenile novices: £852: 2m)
DRINK DEEP ch g by Record Run—Penny Wise (J Burgess), 10-10 S J O'Neill (20-1) 1
Menza .... R Strange (4-6 fav) 2
All In .... C Smith (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 89p; places, 21p, 11p, 44p. Dual F: £1.13. CSF: £3.67. W Wharton at Melton Mowbray. ½l, hd. 16 ran. NRs: Seymour Lady, Creative Star, Sidewinder.
PLACEPOT: £27.55.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

New look at the executive car

The surprising thing about BL's second car project with Honda is not that it should be happening but that it concerns a model in the so-called executive sector. By the mid-1980s, when the car, code-named XX, is due to appear, some observers doubt whether there will be much of an executive market left.

Such a view is based on the pattern of new car sales over the last couple of years. For a long time, oil crisis or not, large cars continued to sell surprisingly well. Executive models (roughly defined as saloons in the two to three litres bracket) actually increased their share of the total market each year from 1976 to 1979.

Last year, however, there was a dramatic swing away from large cars and sales fell by no less than 30 per cent, a decline that far exceeded the average drop in the market as a whole. This year has seen a further drop of around 10 per cent.

The question is whether this trend is now irreversible or whether it represents a temporary hiccough from which the market will recover as the economy comes out of the recession. The BL-Honda executive car project implies that these two companies, at least, favour the second theory; and Honda would not be going into large car manufacture for the first time in its history unless it saw some point in doing so.

All the same, petrol prices are likely to continue rising and there will be increased pressure from governments for more fuel-efficient cars. Business buyers, who account for more than 90 per cent of executive car sales, are already wondering whether smaller, more economical, vehicles will do the job just as well.

And not just wondering: Ford has detected downwards substitution in its range, with former Granada customers switching to the top Cortinas (and Cortina owners switching to Escorts). Ford doubts whether the executive market will ever return to the level of the late 1970s; and hints that if the market goes on con*tracting, mass producers* like itself and General Motors may simply withdraw from it, leaving the field to specialists like BMW and Mercedes.

On that basis, the top model in a future Ford range could be no bigger than the present Cortina. BL is more optimistic about the survival of the executive car, but is convinced that it will have to be a different vehicle from the one *currently on offer.*

It will set out to give the same standard of performance, handling, comfort and refinement but with the fuel consumption now expected from the medium family saloon: 35 miles to the gallon and better. That implies better aerodynamics, more efficient engines and transmissions and less weight.

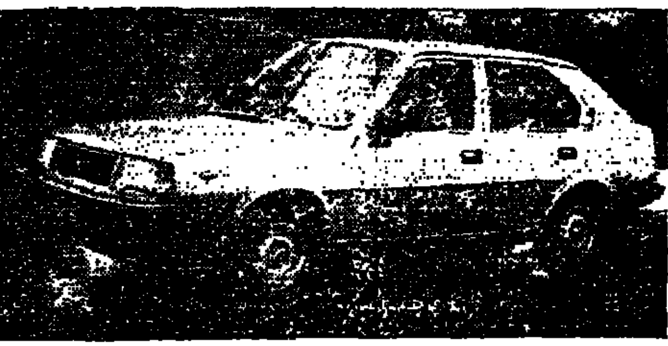
The BL-Honda XX car can *be seen as a long-term* replacement for the Rover. BL decided to scrap its original Rover replacement and meet the need for a large car instead from the LM10 family, the first two members of which, a five-door hatchback and medium saloon, are due to appear in 1983 and 1984.

The indications are that the Honda project will be incorporated into the LM10 strategy of producing several models from one basic design source. There will, therefore, be a certain resemblance between the XX car and the other LM10 offspring, though perhaps less than there would have been without Honda involvement.

Given BL's thoughts about the future shape of the executive car, the basic features of the XX should not be hard to predict. To be lighter than the current Rover, it must come down in overall size, but without *compromising the amount of* interior space which buyers of this type of car expect: this implies that the engine will drive the front wheels.

It could lose as much as a foot in length compared with the Rover and it is likely to be even more streamlined in appearance in the quest for a lower drag factor. The 3.5 litre V8 engine will make way for a unit of probably not more than two litres, though highly tuned for performance. It is a fair guess that there will also be a diesel version, probably turbocharged.

With two Honda car projects, and the Volkswagen gearbox deal for the LM10, BL is well into the collaboration game without which a volume manufacturer cannot hope to survive. Meanwhile it has to keep going for another 18 months or so, until the *LM10 starts coming off* the lines at Cowley.



Catering for British tastes? — the Volvo 345

Road Test: Volvo 345

After a faltering start, the smaller Dutch-built Volvo has become one of the most popular foreign cars among British motorists. The original allocation for this year was sold in the first six months, forcing Volvo to bring forward the introduction of the revised 1982 models; and by the end of the year some 20,500 will have been sold, a 30 per cent *increase over* 1980.

The latest versions incorporate two useful improvements. The front end of the car has been restyled, with integrated front spoiler, new bumpers and larger headlamps with wash/wipe; the result is a cleaner appearance as well as better aerodynamics.

The other change is to the 1.4 litre engine, which now *produces its maximum torque* lower down, at 2,500 rpm instead of 3,500 rpm. This gives better pull for overtaking and enables the driver to maintain a given cruising speed with a less busy engine. Together, the changes produce slightly better fuel consumption.

The 340 series had an unhappy introduction. It was grossly overpriced, costing up to £1,000 more than some rivals; it was available only in three-door form and offered no alternative to the gearless *automatic transmission Volvo* inherited from the former Daf company; and, worst of all, it let Volvo down in an area of traditional strength, quality and reliability.

All these disadvantages have since been removed. On price, as advertising stresses, the car is no more expensive than a Ford Escort and the model range has been extended with the addition of *five-door bodyshells and* manual gearboxes. And the cars are now claimed to be as robust and reliable a their bigger sisters from Sweden.

The engine (a Renault unit) is an old design and has a relatively heavy vehicle to move. Performance, therefore, is adequate, rather than outstanding. The car does not feel underpowered and the lower range torque pays off in *top gear flexibility;* but *some* newer units, such as those in the Escort and Vauxhall Astra, are quicker. The engine is quiet when treated *gently but gets noisy* under pressure.

My fuel consumption figures were 26 mpg in town and 33 mpg on the open road. Three or four years ago, these would have been reasonable enough but such strides have been made in this area that several newer cars do better. On the new Vauxhall Cavalier, a bigger vehicle, I was getting 30 mpg in town and nearly 40 mpg as a cruising figure.

Handling is acceptable but without the very taut and responsive feel of the Escort *and Astra; there is noticeable* body roll and the car can be jogged off line by rough surfaces. But the steering is accurate, the four-speed gearbox gives crisp changes and the brakes are powerfully effective. Ride is firm, liable to choppiness at low speed, *and tyre noise can be* intrusive.

A rear-wheel drive car just under 14ft long, the 345 has just enough space in the back seat for tall adults and the tailgate opens on a large boot. The rear seat can be folded down to increase luggage *space, a manoeuvre* that should be easier to perform. The seats are firm, in keeping with the ride. The heater is powerful and the driving seat heats automatically in cold weather; but ventilation could be better.

It is difficult, going through the *list, to identify* any areas where the Volvo is supreme and in some important respects — performance, fuel consumption, handling — it has been overtaken by more recent models like the Escort and Astra. But, as the sales figures show, none of this has been deterring the customers.

The main reason, I suspect, why British motorists buy Volvo cars in such large numbers (the 200 series has also been holding up well, despite a slump in the large car market as a whole) is a *feeling* that they are getting something that is built to last. And it appears that the 300 range is now being perceived in the same way as the bigger models.

Prices are from £4,497 for the three-door 343 to £5,287 for the five-door 345 GL, which has metallic paint, tinted glass, lower profile tyres and automatic transmission.

Revised 127

The Fiat 127, first of the modern "superminis" and after more than 10 years in production still the best selling car in its class in Europe, is about to go into a mark three edition. The changes include a more streamlined front end, made of plastic resin; redesigned seats and dashboard; better *sound insulation; a five-speed* version of the 1050 cc model; and a new performance derivative, the 1300 Sport.

The revised range goes on sale in Italy next month and will arrive in Britain in April. Prices will be about 5 per cent higher than on the current *127,* suggesting that the cheapest model will cost around £3,100. The changes are designed to freshen up the *127, pending the introduction* of a completely new car in the next year or so.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

"... He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich."—Proverbs 10:4.

BIRTHS

BOMPAS.—On November 17, to Maureen (née Humphreys) and Paul—a son (James Alexander).
COATS.—On November 17, at Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow, to Emma (née Harte) and Peter—a daughter (Eleanor Margaret).
DADAK.—On November 17, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Judy (née Tyndall) and Rod—a son, a brother for Rupert.
DE HAMEL.—On November 18th, to Christine & Christopher—a son (Alexander John Pudsay).
CODNER.—On November 18, 1981 to Ghislaine (née Lasseur) and Peter—a son (Michael).
GRAY.—On November 17th, 1981, at Treliske, Truro, to Josephine (née Knibbs) and Tony—a son.
MARTIN.—On November 17th, at Exeter, to Basia (née Downount) and David—a daughter (Francesca Diana), a sister for Naomi.
MORRIS.—On November 14th, at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Susan (née Whitties) and Derek—a son (Alastair Henry Whitties).
ROGERSON.—On 19th November, at George Washington University Hospital, Washington, D.C., to Carole (née Finney) and Andrew, a son of Bill and Marisa Rogerson—a son (Matthew William).
ROSS.—On November 16, in Edinburgh, to Cameron and Sue, the gift of a daughter (Joanna Luke), sister for Tim.
RUBIN.—On November 9th, 1981, to Anne (née Townsley) and Daniel—a daughter (Olivia Rebecca)—a sister for Edward.
SHAND.—On November 15th, at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, to Camilla and Roddy—a daughter (Katherine Elizabeth), a sister to Antonia, William, Rebecca, Eleanor and Annabel.
STEVENS.—On November 19th at Hitchin, to Stephanie (née Gilroy) and John—a son (Luke Edward), brother for Emma and Ben.
STURGESS.—On November 16th, at Mount Alvernia, Guildford, to Ann (née Higgerty) and Peter—a daughter.
VERE NICOLL.—On November 15, in USA, to Martha and Richard—a daughter.
WEBSTER.—On November 17th, to Juliet and John—a daughter (Charlotte).
WILMUT-SMITH.—On November 12th, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Jenny and Richard—a daughter, Antonia Lindsay.

BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Ral—May your Jumbuck be foul your Tuckerbag.

MARRIAGE

COUSINS : BEARMAN.—On November 14th, 1981, at St Mary's Church, Dedham, Richard Cousins to Nesia Bearman.

DEATHS

BRAITHWAITE.—On 16th November 1981, as a result of an accident Lt. Col. Garnett Edward, formerly of Much Marcle, Ledbury, late the Royal Welch Fusiliers. Funeral, Hawkshead Church, Cumbria, Tuesday, 24th November, 1981 at 2 pm. At his request no mourning or flowers.
BRAYBROOK. — Peacefully after much suffering, on 19th November, 1981, at his home, 66 College Street, Higham Ferrers, Northants, John Edward, aged 54 years, dearly loved husband of Jill, loving father of William and Lucy, loved son of his mother and father. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers, on Tuesday, 24th November, at 11 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, for Multiple Sclerosis Research may be sent to A. Abbott and Sons, Funeral Directors, High Street South, Rushden, Northants.
CHESSHYRE.— On Nov. 18th, after a long illness bravely and patiently borne, Colonel Hubert Layard Chesshyre (Hugo), late Royal Engineers, aged 75, dearly loved husband of Anne (née Boothby) and beloved father of Hubert, William, Matthew, Katharine, John and Alice. Funeral service on Friday, Nov. 27th at 2 p.m. at St Mildred's Church, Canterbury, followed by Cremation (family only) at 3 p.m. at Barham. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to R.E. Benevolent Fund, R.E. Assocn., Brompton Barracks, Chatham, Kent.
COATES.—On 17th November at St Joseph's Hospice, London, Thomas Edward Coates. Funeral Service at the South London Crematorium SW16 on Tuesday, 24th November at 1 p.m.
COMBE.—On November 18th, peacefully in hospital, Bennie, widow of Air Vice-Marshal Gerard Combe, and much loved mother of Tony and Kenneth. Funeral at St. Peter's Church, Southrop, on Tuesday, 24th November, at 2 p.m. Donations, if wished, to Fairford Cottage Hospital, Fairford, Gloucestershire.
CONNELL.—In the morning of November 18th, at Carnagore, Carrigart, Co Donegal, Madalena, greatly loved wife of the late Captain R. H. Connell, D.S.C., R.N., and mother of Sandy, Patrick, Peany and Simon, in her 71st year. Funeral private.
DEAN.—On November 18th, Mary, formerly of Woodstock Close, Oxford, dearly loved mother of Eleanor Ransome, and sister of Dorothy and Marjorie Clayton. Cremation at Oxford Crematorium, November 24th, at 12 noon. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to the Royal National Institute For The Deaf, 105 Gower Street, London, WC1.
EDMISTON.—On November 17th, 1981 in hospital, Alan Edmiston, aged 92 years. Fond cousin of Pat Arrowsmith. Cremation ceremony at Golders Green Crematorium today (Friday) at 3.40 pm (Bedford Chapel). No flowers but donations to CND.
HEFFER.—On 19th November, peacefully in Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, Nesta May (née Jones), in her 70th year, daughter of the late Professor and Mrs. O. T. Jones, dearly loved wife of Reuben, much loved by Nicholas, Zillah, William and Lesley, and devoted grandmother. Service of thanksgiving for her life at Trumpington Parish Church, on Tuesday, 24th November, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only; donations to The National Society For Cancer Relief, Lloyds Bank, 3 Sidney Street, Cambridge.
HOPKINSON.—On 18th November, 1981, in hospital at Dover after an operation, Silvia Durham Hopkinson, beloved wife of Captain R. H. Hopkinson, R.N., of Walmer, aged 90, mother of John and the late Geoffrey. Funeral on Tuesday, 24th November, at St Saviours Church, Walmer, at 11.30 a.m., followed by private cremation.
KAY, EDITH ANNIE.—On November 17th, peacefully, aged 96 years, beloved wife of late Walter K.y and loving mother of Joan and Elaine and affectionate granny of Christopher, Judith, Anthony, John, Charles and Frances Anne. Family flowers only, donations to Pat Seed Cancer Appeal, Garstang Lancs. Service on November 23rd, 12 noon at Central Methodist Church, Union St, Bury, and afterwards at Bury Cemetery.
MILLER-BARRY.—On November 17th, peacefully at The Royal Hampshire Hospital, Winchester, Walter Leopold Miller-Barry, O.B.E., aged 77. Funeral service on Thursday, November 26th, Easton Church, Easton near Winchester at noon. Flowers to John Steel & Son Ltd., Chesil House, Winchester.
PAUL.—On 18th November, 1981, in hospital, Major J. B. (Jack) Paul, husband of Marye, and father of Alec. Funeral private. Memorial Service to be announced later.
STONESTREET. — On November 18th, 1981, George Alec of Sevenoaks, Kent. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Parish Church, Sevenoaks, on Tuesday, November 24th at 3 p.m. Family flowers only. No letters by request. Enquiries to W. Hodges & Co., Sevenoaks, Kent. Tel: ...
VIENS.—On November 19th, peacefully in Johannesburg, Frances Mary Noel (née Creswell) aged 80, wife of the late James Gordon Langford Viens, dearly loved mother and grandmother.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

EVANS.—A service of thanksgiving for Sir Bryan Evans, Banqueting Manager of The Savoy from 1961-1977 and known to his clients as Evangelo Brioni, will be held at The Queen's Chapel of The Savoy on Monday, 23rd November, at 10.30 a.m. All friends and associates will be welcome.
HEALD.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Lionel Heald, P.C., Q.C., will be held at the Temple Church, London, E.C.4, on Thursday, 10th December, 1981, at 4.45 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

ROYAL TANK REGIMENT. — In glorious memory of all ranks of the Tank Corps who fell at the Battle of Cambrai, November 20th, 1917, and of all those in the Heavy Branch Machine Gun Corps, Tank Corps, Royal Tank Corps, and Royal Tanks Regiment who have given their lives for their country during, between and since the two World Wars.

SIR MAURICE OLDFIELD, G.C.M.G., C.B.E. on his birthday. Remembered for his goodness, loving-kindness and humour by many friends who love and miss him.

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THE BANKSIAS.—Volume one will be on display exclusively at the Foyles Gallery, Foyles Bookshop, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2, on November 21st, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
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ANTIGUA SPECIAL OFFERS. Until 4 Dec., 2 wks, Halcyon Reef Hotel inc. flights, half board, free w/sports, etc. £565 p.p. GL Travel, 01-546 3151. ABTA.
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LARGE BOOKCASES, old desks, books, pictures. Fentons. 01-722 8386.

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LABRADOR pups, black, available 1st December.—Tel. after 6 p.m. Thaxted 850 244.
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RENTALS

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CONTACT JENNIFER RUDNAY
629 6604

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Herts/Bucks border, 1 hour central London. CH, fully furn. 3/4 beds 2 recept with gallery. To let for 6 months or longer.
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Ex. 56 (any weekday)

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MARBLE ARCH (opposite park). Interior-designed, 3 bedrooms, 2 receps., American Kitchen, 2 bath. flat in prestige block. Palace Properties. 01-486 8926.

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HAYS always have a good selection of properties to rent in South West London, Surrey and Berkshire. Tel: Oxshott 3811. Telex 8955112.
RICHMOND. 3 new luxury 2 bed. flats with panoramic views over river. Rentals £135-£165 p.w.—S.M., Tel. 623 2238.
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AMERICAN Executive seeks luxury flat or house up to £350 p.w. Usual fees required.—Phillips Kay & Lewis. 839 2245.
RUCK & RUCK. 581 1741. Quality furnished houses for long lets needed urgently and also available.
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MAYFAIR & S.W.1. House and 2 flats, 4 or 2 bedrooms, furn./unfurn. £180 p.w. each. 629 9620.
W1.—Luxury flats and mews hse. 2/3 beds. £100-£150 pw.—487 4986 evening 274 6877.
S.W.4. Large s/c furn flat. One double bedroom, recep room, kitchen and bathroom. Close tube. £250 pcm. (Eves) 622 0229.
STOKE NEWINGTON—First floor purpose built flat in quiet cul-de-sac. 1 dble bedroom, 1 reception. Newly, fully furnished, fully fitted kitchen, garage. Lovely new overlooking park. £275 p.cm. 800 7834.
STREATHAM. Luxury 2 bedroom s/c flat. £75 pw. 828 4162.
HARLEY ST. Close. Beautifully renovated 3 bedroom mews house, recep., k. & two baths. £200 p.w. Enhanced Viles. 734 2282.
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THE VERY BEST tenants/landlords come to us. If you are letting or wanting a good property in Kensington, Belgravia, Hampstead, or similar areas, please call now. Rents £80 p.w. to £600 p.w. for one year or more.—Birch & Co. 499 8802.
CADOGAN AREA. Excellent part-furnished flat, 3 beds, 3 recept k & 2 b, c.h. £375 p.w. Phillips Kay & Lewis. 839 2245.
PRIMROSE HILL, N.W.1: Bright basement available now for min. 1 year. Newly decorated, luxuriously furnished. All electric. Ter. large sitting room, twin bed, dining hall, etc. £325 p.m.—01-722 7142.
PUTNEY. Flat, single bed, double bed, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom: £85 p.w.—789 1916.
RIVERSIDE flat in quiet Putney. 3 beds, double recep. mod kit; fully furn.; gas c.h. Available Jan 2. Suit company let or married couple. £500 p.m.—Write K. D. Campbell, P.O. Box 853, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, or telephone Riyadh 477 4770 before 2 p.m., or 464 0906 after then.
EALING, W.5. Five bedroomed family house; 2 bathrooms, 3 w.c.s, double garage; walking distance Tube (Central/Piccadilly lines). 15 mins Airport. Company/Embassy let only. £250 p.w. neg.—01-998 5687.
HYDE PARK, W.2. Ultra mod. high rise; 2 bed, very large recep, k. and b.; £3,900 per annum. C. and c. low price.—Crouch & Lees. 499 7981.
SUNSETS OVER NOTTING HILL from attractive attic flat. Ideal couple. Avail Dec 13th. £66.50 p.w. Phone 229 3855.
HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB.—Newly decorated house, furnished or unfurnished, 3 beds, 2 recept, c.h. Co let £120 p.w. 456 8616.
SW3. 3 bed house, recept, k and 2 baths Co. let. £170 p.w. Willetts. 730 3435.
SECOND FLOOR FLAT directly on Hampstead Heath. 1 large double bedroom, 1 sitting room, 1 large kitchen/dining room, bathroom & w.c., plus small salary offered by semi retired couple in exchange for Monday-Thursday only light housework and cooking. Daily help available. Ideally suited couple or friends. Regret no children. Highest character references required. Write Box 1119 G, The Times.
HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB. Furnished ground floor flat, 1 recept, 2 beds, sleeps 3/4. £85 p.w. incl. Tel. 456 0320.
GLEDHOW GARDENS, SW5. Newly dec 2 bed flat. Large recep. 3 months. £150 p.w. Sandhills 582 2216.
SW10. Pleasant sunny 2½ room flat £70 p.w. 352 8871.
SW1 CENTRAL LONDON. Luxurious Town House, furnished, 2 dble, 2 single bedrooms, 2 recepts. Long/short let. 01-821 1744.
IDEAL FOR VISITORS SOUTH KENSINGTON. New fully serviced flat for two, lift, tel. c.h., colour TV, etc. Short/medium let. 584 2414 or 786 4981.
AMERICAN Executive seeks luxury flat or house up to £350 p.w. Usual fees required.—Phillips Kay & Lewis, 839 2245.
BELSIZE VILLAGE, NW3. Mais., 2 beds, 3 recept, k. & 2b., gas C.H. Co. let. £125 p.w. Hunters 837 7365.

CLAPHAM. Large Victorian House beautifully decorated and furnished, all luxury requirements. 2 receptions, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Available Xmas.
HARLEY STREET. Superb Long let, suit family. £175 per week. Luxury flat in prestigious block. 3 bedrooms, entrance hall, drawing room, fully equipped kitchen, parking. Long let. £350 p.w.
WIMBLEDON. Pretty 4 bedroomed house in private cul-de-sac, well furnished and decorated, fully equipped, Garage. Suit family. £150 p.w.
JEAN WILLIAMS LTD
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Chestertons
MOORE STREET, S.W.3
Spacious Maisonette on grnd. & lwr. grnd. with beautiful gdn. 3 dble. beds., 1 bathrm., 1 recep., 1 dining rm., kit. £140 p.w.
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RENTALS

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SUSSEX SQUARE, W.2. Well furnished south-facing 5th floor flat in P/B block on the Hyde Park Estate. 3 beds, 2 baths (1 en suite), 2 recepts, kit. Gas C.H. Access to private square. Underground garage, lift and porter. £400 p.w. Clayton Bennett Roscock. 584 6863.

FLAT SHARING

CHISWICK.—Bedsit in C.H. family house. Nr tube, share amenities. £30 p.w. inc. Tel: 747 0968.
SW10.—Own room and kitchenette, £25 p.w. incl. plus 2 nights child-sitting. Female, non-smoker. 351 4653.
NW8.—Male, own room, large house, TV, all mod cons. £30 p.w. 969 4142.
KNIGHTSBRIDGE by park. Lady, 25+, beautiful sunny room in large lux. flat, porterage. C/H. £52.50 p.w. 589 8439.
NW2. Female to share lux flat, own room, c.h. £100 p.c.m. excl. Ring 452 0472, after 6 p.m.
BATTERSEA. Own room, share friendly luxury flat. Colour TV, all machines. £37 p.w. 01-228 6765.
LUXURY FLAT, E.C.2. Pref. non-smoker, 25+. £170 p.c.m. 639 8896 day, 638 0690 eves.
BATTERSEA—3 sharers, luxury house. £40 p.w. each. 828 4162/848 6418.
COMMUTER BASE, single room in South Ken. £25 pw.—589 6958.
FLATMATES.—313 Brompton Rd. Selective sharing 589 5491.
W.2. Share apartment in modern block, close Marble Arch. Inclusive light, heat, etc. £75 p.w. Phone 262 6018.
S.W. LONDON. Share of a luxury flat. £29 p.w.—828 4162.
EALING W5. 2nd person 25 plus to share large house, own bed/bath. £48 p.w. 997 1908.
FULHAM.—2 girls to share room in spacious CH flat. All mod cons. £23 pw each. 381 1912.
BLACKHEATH prof. m/f Lge room. Use of family listed hse meals, laundry etc all inc £40 p.w. or neg. Mon-Fri 858 4768.
DULWICH own room, share house £25 p.w. exc. 0963 62746.
BATTERSEA.—House near park, own room, male 30's, £30 p.w. 228 8434.
BEDSIT.—Shared kitchen in C.H. house, n. tube, SW17. £90 p.c.m. incl. 672 5904.
BLACKHEATH.—Prof. female, own room, share lux. flat. £25 p.w. Tel: 319 3499 eves.
LADY 27+—Share s/c flat, Clapham Park, 1 other, own room + bills £100 p.c.m. 671 3165.
TOOTING BEC.—Large fully furnished garden flat in quiet well-cared for Edwardian House for 2 professional people. 2 mins. common, 10 mins. tube. £322 p.c.m. 650 6871.
SW11.—Own large room in flat overlooking common. £100 p.c.m. Second room £85 p.c.m. 486 7450 daytime.
PROF GIRL seeks o/r in shared flat. Central London. Max £25 p.w. 328 3505 eves/wkds.
PROF GIRL. Own Room, Luxury flat S.W.15. £30 p.w. 789 4470 eves.
HILLYFIELDS S.E.13—2nd, 3rd, 4th, prof. male/female to share lovely house overlooking park. Ch., col T.V., Own rooms. £120 p.c.m. excl. 25+ preferred. Ring 690 1658 after 7 p.m.
FULHAM SW6. Girl 21+ share garden flat own room. C/H. £25 p.w. excl. Phone 736 2853.
W.2. Prof. male/female, share flat, own room. £90 p.c.m. 402 3985 after 6.30 p.m.

SITUATIONS WANTED

GIRL, 26; good educational background, advanced secretarial linguists diploma; interested in the arts; seeks job in Spanish and/or Italian speaking environment. Ideally language school.—Tel. 748 1934.

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AU PAIR New York suburb. Warm, reliable girl. Help with two children and house.—M. Selden, 18 Candy Lane, Roslyn Heights, New York 577.
AU PAIR BUREAU Piccadilly Ltd World's largest au pair agency offers best jobs London or abroad at 87 Regent St., W.1. 930 4757.
DRINKS WAITER — Sommelier, (m/f) for new restaurant/club in Fulham. Tel. 381 6161.
DO YOU KNOW any reliable staff for work in large private home in home counties, one hour from London? Highest pay plus a return air ticket every two years to homeland if required. Excellent accommodation, congenial work atmosphere, with Philippino ladies in our employment for twelve years. Write to Box No 0983 G, The Times.
ELDERLY GENTLEMAN.—Living in St Andrews, requires resident housekeeper. Terms negotiable. Applications with references (2). Box No. 1181 G, The Times.
NEW YORK: Young working mother looking for fulltime child care, with light housekeeping, please send references and picture to E. Ladder, 1202 Cheryl Drive, Iselin, N.J. 08830.
TOP QUALITY Country restaurant needs live-in waiter/ess/General Assistant. May suit student with year to spare. Write, with tel. no. to Milton Ernest Hall Hotel, Bedford or ring 02302 4111.

EDUCATIONAL

FOR DETAILS of advertising in The Times' new Thursday Courses and Careers Page (with editorial covering Business with Management Courses; GCE Level; Educational Courses and Studentships; Public and Educational appointments; University appointments; Awards and Scholarships and Fellowships, please telephone on 01-278 9161.

GRAYSTON TUTORS—O & A level, residential. 095 586 3876.

PUBLIC NOTICES

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Prince Consort Road,
South Kensington, SW7.

Notice is hereby given that the NINETY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Corporation will be held at the College on Monday, 14th December, 1981 at 4.00 p.m. to receive a Report and Statement of Accounts from the Council and to transact other business.

Dated: 20th November, 1981

DAVID McKENNA
Hon. Secretary

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities administered by the Special Trustees of the Royal Free Hospital, Greater London.
The Charity Commissioners have made a SCHEME for this charity. Copies can be obtained from them at 14 Ryder Street, London, SW1Y 6AH (ref: 228088-1-L2).

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT—SESSION 1981-82
GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) (No. 2)

Notice is hereby given that the Greater London Council (in this notice called "The Council") intend to make, or have made, application to Parliament for leave to introduce in the Session 1981-82 a Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

1. To enable the Council, the London borough councils and the Common Council of the City of London to demand and recover from any person executing or proposing to execute works which necessitate the making of an order or the issuing of a notice under Section 12 (which relates to the temporary prohibition or restriction of traffic on roads) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967, a charge to cover the reasonable costs incurred by or charged to an authority in respect of the order or notice.

2. To provide for increases in penalties for certain offences in certain London local enactments to take account of the effects of inflation.

3. To extend the period referred to in Section 25 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1973 from 28 consecutive nights to 90 consecutive nights. Section 25 relates to changes in the use of residential premises to use as temporary sleeping accommodation (eg temporary rooms for tourists).

4. (a) To make it unlawful, where a London borough council or the Corporation of the City of London so decide, as from an appointed day, to use premises in that borough or in the City of London for certain sex-oriented purposes without a licence authorising the use;

(b) to provide procedures for applying for, and objecting to the grant of licences and for the grant, refusal and revocation of licences;

(c) to specify reasons for disqualification from holding licences and to make provision for offences, penalties and appeals.

5. To amend the Richmond, Petersham and Ham Open Spaces Act 1902 to authorise the erection of certain agricultural buildings on a part of Petersham Meadows (approx 1.766 acres in extent) in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames comprising the present farm and land adjoining.

6. To extend to 90 consecutive days the letting period referred to in Section 4(2) of the Kensington and Chelsea Corporation Act 1972 for the purposes of Part II (Registration of sleeping accommodation) of that Act.

7. To amend Schedule 3 to the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1981 (which specifies premises in Greater London in respect of which certain provisions of the Shops Act 1950 shall not apply during exhibitions, trade fairs and conferences) to include premises known as Ivory House, East Smithfield, London E1.

A plan showing the area of Petersham Meadows referred to in paragraph 5 above will be deposited at the offices of the Chief Executive and Town Clerk of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Municipal Offices, York House, Twickenham, Middlesex and at the offices of the undersigned Director of Administration and Solicitor to the Council and Parliamentary Agents and will be available for inspection, and copies thereof may be made, on and after the 4th day of December 1981.

On and after 4th day of December 1981 a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies thereof may be obtained at the price of sixty-five pence each at the offices of the undersigned Director of Administration and Solicitor to the Council and Parliamentary Agents.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a petition against it in either or both Houses of Parliament. The latest date for the deposit of such a petition in the First House will be 6 February if the Bill originates in the House of Lords or 30 January if it originates in the House of Commons. Further information may be obtained from the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons or from the undersigned Parliamentary Agents.

Dated this 20th day of November 1981.

J. R. FITZPATRICK
Director of Administration and Solicitor to the Council
Greater London Council
The County Hall
London SE1 7PB

DYSON BELL & CO
15 Great College Street
London SW1P 3RX
Parliamentary Agents
(5554)

IN PARLIAMENT—SESSION 1981-82
FELTHAM STATION AREA REDEVELOPMENT (LONGFORD RIVER)

Notice is hereby given that application has been or will be made to Parliament by Westminster Bunting Limited, Renslade Investments (London) Limited and Westminster Renslade (Investments) Limited for leave to introduce in the Session of 1981-82 a Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:—

To authorise the Secretary of State for the Environment to grant to Westminster Bunting Limited, Renslade Investments (London) Limited and Westminster Renslade (Investments) Limited a right to construct and use a bridge over a section of the Longford River in the area of Feltham Station or to grant to the said Companies some other estate or interest therein.

A plan showing the section of the Longford River in relation to which the Secretary of State for the Environment is to be authorised by the intended Act to grant the aforementioned rights has been deposited at the offices of the undermentioned Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents.

Copies of the said plan are available for inspection and copies thereof may be made at the said offices during normal working hours.

On and after the 4th December 1981, a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies thereof obtained at the price of 50p at the offices of the undermentioned Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a petition against it in either or both Houses of Parliament. In the First House the latest date for the deposit of such a petition will be the 30th January 1982, if the Bill commences in the House of Commons and the 6th February 1982 if it commences in the House of Lords.

Further information may be obtained from the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments House of Lords or the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents.

DATED this 20th day of November 1981.

GOULDENS,
118 Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1JJ.
Solicitors.

REES & FRERES,
1 The Sanctuary,
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Parliamentary Agents.

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CLWYD COUNTY COUNCIL. Issued 17 November, 1981 £2.0m Bills due 16 February at 15½%. Applications £12.0m. Total outstanding £10.0m.

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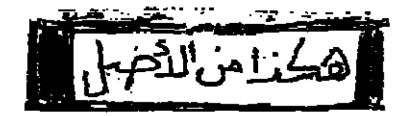
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Subjects include Physical Science — Waves (at 9.00), Swim — springboard diving (9.25), Hyh o Fyd — USA Colorado (11.00), Going to Work — craft skills (11.40) and 16 Up (Welcome to the working week) at 12.05; 12.30 News After Noon; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The Queen visits the Birmingham studios to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Pebble Mill broadcasting. Special guests include Vera Lynn, who sings some favourite Second World War songs, and Bill Pertwee. Also, an item on royal flowers. The queen will watch Pebble Mill at One being planned and rehearsed; 1.45 The Flumps; 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Award-winning film Scene in Northern Ireland; and a film about local newspaper reporting; 3.20 Welsh language film about India — Delgryn yn y Llwch.

3.55 Play School: Same as BBC 2, 11.00 am.
4.20 Undercover Elephant: cartoon;
4.25 Jackanory: Hayley Mills reads part 5 of Ruth Boswell's Emmy;
4.40 The New Schmoo: cartoon.
4.50 Crackerjack: The special guest is Keith Harris.
5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph (r).
5.40 News: with Jan Leeming;
6.00 Regional news magazines;
6.22 Nationwide. Desmond Lynam's Sportswide at 6.40.
6.50 Children in Need: First of tonight's six programmes, asking for your cash (see Choice).
7.00 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? It's Bob and Thelma's wedding day. Starring Rodney Bewes and Brigit Forsyth (r).
7.30 Terry and June: Terry Scott and June Whitfield try to breathe new life into hospital radio.
8.00 Children in Need: continued.
8.05 Kessler: Episode 2. The former SS boss in Belgium is angered by a TV programme about him. He decides to lie low in London.
8.55 Children in Need: continued.

9.00 News: with John Simpson. And weather forecast.
9.25 Children in Need: continued.
9.30 Tommy Steele — A Handful of Songs: Special BBC tribute to mark the entertainer's 25 years in showbusiness. There are highlights from some of the films he has made and from the shows he has been in.
10.15 Children in Need: Penultimate programme.
11.15 Starsky and Hutch: Hutch becomes involved with the sister of a gangster. It results in his being beaten up.
11.55 Children in Need: A report on how the money has been pouring in all evening. Ends at 1.00 am.

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 1.45-2.00 Y cowboi bach. 2.35-2.55 I ysgolion: Hwnt ac YMA. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.50-5.15 Screen Test. 5.15-5.40 Culhwch ac Olwen (3). 6.00-6.22 Wales Today. 7.00-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Fo a fe. 11.00-11.05 News headlines. 1.00 am. Weather Scotland 11.00 am-11.22 For Schools: Around Scotland 12.55 pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 11.00-11.05 News headlines. 1.00 am Weather. Northern Ireland 11.00 am-11.22 Closedown. 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News 6.00-6.22 Scene Around Six. 11.00-11.05 News headlines; 1.00 am News and weather. England 6.00 pm-6.22 Regional news magazines. 1.00 am Close.

BBC 2

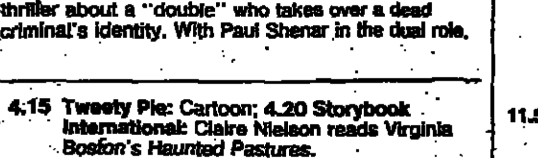
11.00 Play School: The Wizard of Wallaby Wallow, by Jack Kent with his own illustrations. 11.25 Closedown; 1.20 Ascot Racing: We see the 1.35 (Hurst Park Novices' Steeplechase), the 2.05 (Charles Davis Handicap) and the 3.05 (The Rip Handicap Chase); 3.20 Closedown; 3.55 International Pro-Celebrity Golf: Highlights from the first Pro-Celebrity Golf series. This afternoon, we see Telly Savalas, the Kojak star, partnering Tom Weiskopf, and Christopher Lee, the screen Dracula, partnering Peter Oosterhuis. The programme is introduced by Peter Alliss.

4.45 War at Sea: Ludovic Kennedy tells the story of the many attempts to sink the German battleship Tirpitz. (r).
5.35 Film: Tarzan Finds a Son* (1939) A plane crash brings a third person into the ape man's jungle home. Co-starring Johnny Weissmuller, Maureen O'Sullivan, and John Sheffield as Boy.
6.55 News: with sub-titles.
7.00 Oxford Road Show: Music, theatre and current affairs.
7.40 Hold Down a Chord: Guitar lesson. C and D7 chords, and right hand scratch.
7.55 In the Country: Creative Countryside. How poets, painters and musicians have been influenced by the English rural scene.
8.25 Newsweek: How we view the police — and how they view themselves. David Jessel reports.

9.00 Suez 1956: A second chance to see Ian Curteis's three-hour play (part one tonight, part two tomorrow night) about the events 26 years ago which brought the world to the brink of war. Newsreel footage gives the play a documentary feel. Michael Gough plays Sir Anthony Eden (a most impressive impersonation) and Robert Stephens plays Nasser (ditto). Jennifer Daniel is Lady Eden; Peter Cellier is Selwyn Lloyd and Alexander Know is John Foster Dulles (r).
10.35 Friday Night ... Saturday Morning: The MC is Desmond Morris. His guests include Susanna Kubelka, an authority on matters sexual. Part one.
10.50 Newsnight.
11.35 Friday Night ... Saturday Morning. Part two. Ends at 12.30 am.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools. Subjects include New Generations (human reproduction) at 10.09 A-level Evolution at 10.26; Starting Out (young people preparing for the adult world) at 11.05, and a documentary about a desert island at 11.34; 12.00 A Handful of Songs: with Keith Field, Maria Morgan; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: with Mark Wynter; 12.30 100% Responsibility: Helene Hayman on groups which can be useful to the one-parent family; 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.20 Taff Acre: Welsh life serial. Jan confronts her wayward husband; 2.00 After Noon Plus: A visit to former cricket commentator John Arlott in retirement in the Channel Islands; 2.45 Film: The Mask of Alexander Cross (1977) Made-for-TV thriller about a "double" who takes over a dead criminal's identity. With Paul Shenar in the dual role.



4.15 Tweety Pie: Cartoon; 4.20 Storybook International: Claire Nielson reads Virginia Boston's Haunted Pastures.
4.45 Spectrum: How word-of-mouth messages can be distorted. Also in this science-related series: who makes dolphins jump — and how?
5.15 White Light: An audience and an MP, Michael Meacher, discuss the proposition: The jobless should do community service one day in every week.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news; 6.30 Thames sport. What's happening in the capital.
7.00 The Amazing Spiderman: A wealthy widow is in danger from psychic forces, and desperately needs Spiderman's help.
8.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right: Tonight's contestants are Mr and Mrs Fanning, from Brentford, Middlesex, and Mr and Mrs McCormack, from Portadown, Northern Ireland.
8.30 That's My Boy: with Mollie Sugden as the interfering housekeeper. Tonight: trouble when a husband teaches his wife to drive.

9.00 The Gentle Touch: Detective-inspector Maggie Forbes (Jill Gascoine) is in danger again. A chauffeur is shot dead. The bullet is intended for his boss, an entrepreneur (George Baker). It seems the only people who might be out to get him are the owners of a gaming club.
10.00 News from ITN.
10.30 Soap: American-made comedy series. Jessica (Katherine Helmond) hears that her romance could be threatened, and Mary (Cathryn Damon) reveals the identity of Danny's (Ted Wass) real father.
11.00 The London Programme: What Chance for Scarman? What Lord Scarman will say in his report on the riots in Brixton and other inner cities. Those taking part include Sir Cyril Phillips, of the Police Complaints Board; Darcus Howe, a black community leader, and Paul Boateng of the GLC.
11.35 Police 5: with Shaw Taylor.
11.45 Strumpet City: Dublin life serial, from James Plunkett's book. Industrial unrest is mounting in the city. The scene is set for rioting when union leader James Larkin (Peter O'Toole) is barred from addressing dock workers.
12.45 Close.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: James Clavell, author of Shogun.
9.45 A Sideways Look At ... by Anthony Smith.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story "The Zuccarelli Copy" by Mark Bourne.
11.00 News.
11.05 You, The Jury (new series). Current and controversial issues are put on trial before an audience. Today: Parents and doctors should have the right to decide whether severely handicapped babies should be treated.
11.50 Natural Selection. The story of the oldest stuffed bird in England.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 The Senior Partner (series) Andrew Cruickshank in "Our Miss Campbell".
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play "A Superhero for Our Times" by Chris Allen.†
4.05 Poetry Please!†
4.15 Herbs, Useful Plants (2) Plants in the Pharmacy.
4.45 Story Time "Wild Strawberries" by Angela Thirkell (final part).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile: A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime "The Wardrobe" by Thomas Mann.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Miles Kington.
12.00 News and Weather.

VHF: 6.25 am Weather. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 1.55 Programme News. 2.00 For Schools. 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert Auber, Faure, Poulenc, Messager; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Weber, Mozart, Haydn; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer C. P. E. Bach; records.†
9.50 Lysis Recital: Hindemith, Ives, John Wallace, Lyell Cresswell, Schnittke.†
10.35 Music for Worship including first British broadcasts of anthems by Tchaikovsky, a mass by Liszt and a requiem by Puccini.†
11.35 Hamish Milne Piano recital: Hummel, Stravinsky transcr. Agosti.†
12.15 Midday Concert direct from Henry Wood Hall, Glasgow. Part 1: Mozart, Francaix.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Interlude.
1.20 Midday Concert Part 2: Dvorak.†
1.55 The Lute Group Recital: Giovanni Pacoloni, anon., Stephen Dodgson, Marco dall'Aquila, Francesco da Milano, Pacoloni.†
2.20 Now and Then String Quartet recital: Haydn, David Matthews.†
3.15 Piano Duets Recital: Mozart, Reger.†
4.00 Choral Evensong in the Chapel of Magdalen College, Oxford.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure with Fritz Spiegl.†
6.55 Play it Again Preview.†
7.00 Piano Music Piano recital: Chopin, Liszt, Albeniz.†
7.35 Popper and the Open Society. Dr Heinz Lubasz, Reader in the History of Ideas at the University of Essex, considers the work of Professor Karl Popper.
8.00 London Symphony Orchestra Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London. Part 1: Tippett.†
8.25 The living Poet. Roy Fisher introduces and reads his own work.
8.45 Concert Part 2: Beethoven.†
10.10 Souvenirs of Chabrier Second of five programmes in which Roger Nichols considers the art of Emmanuel Chabrier, with illustrations on record.†
11.00 News.
11.05 J. C. Bach on record.†
VHF only — 11.20pm-12.00 Midnight Open University.

Jimmy Durante in the Bing Crosby Show (Radio 2, 10.30 pm)

Radio 2

5.0 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Susannah Simons.† 12.00 John Dunn.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 Much More Music.† 8.00 Sequence Time.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.00 Marks in his Diary. 10.30 The Bing Crosby Show. Special Guest: Jimmy Durante. 11.00 Brian Matthew † from midnight. 1.00 Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT — 6.00am Newsdesk 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 7.30 Guitar Workshop 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Divertimento 8.30 Frank Muir Goes Into . 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Music Now 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 In the Meantime 11.25 Ulster Newsletter 11.30 Meridian 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. News Summary 1.30 Nightlife. 2.15 Letterbox 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Science in Action 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News 5.09 Just a Minute 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 9.15 Music Now 9.45 Letter from London 9.55 Wave-guide 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 The Week in Wales 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 From the Weeklies 11.30 Thirty Minute Theatre 12.00 World News 12.09 am News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 About Britain 12.45 Sarah and Company 1.15 Outlook 1.45 The French Miniature 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Three Centuries of Italian Opera 4.00 Newsdesk 5.45 The World Today

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 9 0-92.5MHz. MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95 8MHz BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94 9MHz World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

CHANNEL

As London except: 12.00 Closedown 12.30-1.00pm Fit for Living 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-4.15 Film: The Old Man Who Cried Wolf (Edward G. Robinson). Murder witness cannot convince anyone of what he has seen. 5.15-5.45 Adventures of Niko 6.00 Channel Report 6.35-7.00 Brown Study 10.28 News 10.35 Soap 11.05 Film: The Long Day's Dying (David Hemmings, Tom Bell) Irony and bitterness in a grim wartime setting. 12.40am Closedown.

SOUTHERN

As London except: 12.30-1.00pm Fit for Living 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Houseparty 2.25-4.15 Film: Girl in the Headlines* (Ian Hendry, Ronald Fraser). Investigation into the death of a beautiful girl. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer 6.00 Day by Day 6.00 Scene South-East 6.30-7.00 Out of Town 10.35 Film: Hammersmith Is Out (Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton). Master criminal escapes from an asylum. 12.40am Weather followed by Disturbing Report

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25 am Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 12.30 pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: That's Your Funeral (Bill Fraser, Raymond Huntley). A new competitor challenges an established firm of undertakers. 5.15-5.45 Clifton House Mystery. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Paris By Night. 12.30 am Poet's Corner. 12.35 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT

GRAMPIAN

As London except: 9.30am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30 pm-1.00 Fit For Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Young and Innocent.* (Nova Pilbeam, Derrick de Marney). 1937 Hitchcock suspense thriller. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Film: The Cat. (Jean Gabin, Simone Signoret). Couple living in an angry silence. 12.10 am News. 12.15 Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: "A Place of One's Own" (Margaret Lockwood, James Mason). Elegant ghost story. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Lou Grant. 11.30 Bedtime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: A place of one's own* (Margaret Lockwood, James Mason). Elegant ghost story. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 11.00 Film: The Promise (John Castle). Eternal triangle goings-on during the siege of Leningrad. 12.40 Closedown.

ATV

As London except 12.30-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mister Jerico (Patrick Macnee, Connie Stevens). Conman operating in European resorts. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer 6.00-7.00 ATV Today 10.30 Going Out 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: The Eyes Have It (Peter Vaughan, Dennis Waterman). Political assassins forcibly take over a school for the blind. 12.40 Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 11.54am-12.00 Bubbles. 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.45-4.15 Film: Background (Valerie Hobson). 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 Kinvig. 11.30 Film: Countess Dracula (Ingrid Pitt). 1.10am Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mister Jerico (Patrick Macnee) conman operating in European resorts. 5.15-5.45 Bygones. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood: The Chase. 10.30 Wintersport. 11.00 Roots. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Fit For Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45 Cartoon. 2.50-4.15 Film: Sidekicks (Lou Gossett, Larry Hagman). Conman sells his accomplice as a slave. 5.15-5.45 How's Your Father? 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Longest River: Severn, Ashleworth to Sharpness Canal. 10.28 News. 10.30 Report Extra. 11.00 Film: Revenge (Joan Collins, James Booth). Publican's daughter is raped and murdered. 12.40 Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV except: 10.48-11.03 Y Byd A i Bethau. 11.34-11.49 About Wales. 11.50 Cartoontime. 12.00-12.10 Flalabalam. 1.30-2.00 Happy Days. 4.15-4.45 Plant Yr Ynys. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Taff Acre. 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

WESTWARD

As London except: 12.27pm Gus Honeybun's birthdays 12.30-1.00 Fit for Living 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-4.15 Film: The Old Man Cried Wolf (Edward G. Robinson, Martin Balsam). Murder witness cannot convince anyone of what he has seen. 5.15-5.45 Adventures of Niko 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary 10.32 News 10.35 Soap 11.05 Film: Long Day's Dying (David Hemmings, Tom Bell) Irony and bitterness in a grim wartime setting. 12.40am Faith for Life 12.45 Closedown

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Fit For Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Panic in the City. (Howard Duff, Linda Crystal) Unidentified man is found unconscious suffering from a deadly dose of radiation. 5.15-5.45 End of Part One. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 11.00 Members Only: stories behind the political headlines. 11.30 Film: Oklahoma Kid.* (James Cagney, Humphrey Bogart). Pioneer is framed by a ruthless racketeer. 12.55 am It's All in the Opera.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Call Her Mom (Connie Stevens, Van Johnson). Blonde waitress becomes a fraternity housemother. 5.15-5.45 Take the Stage. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.30 Ways and Means with Colin MacKay. 11.00 Soap. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Jericho. 12.30 Closedown.

CHOICE

Terry Wogan: one of the Children in Need presenters on BBC 1 tonight.

● Two anniversaries happily coalesce in a special Royal Visit edition of PEBBLE MILL AT ONE (BBC 1, 1.00). It is both the Queen's 34th wedding anniversary and the 10th anniversary of the first broadcast from Pebble Mill, the BBC's TV and radio complex in Birmingham. As well as the daily lunch-hour show, which provides relaxed, undemanding entertainment entirely appropriate to the time of day, Pebble Mill puts out, or has put out, The Archers, Pot Black, All Creatures Great and Small and Top Gear, plus a mass of material from the Asian Unit, which supplies programmes for both TV and radio. It's a most respectable record of achievement, and I wish Pebble Mill many happy reurns.

● One thing to get clear about BBC 1's ambitious fund-raising effort CHILDREN IN NEED (see programme times above) is that it is not the Corporation's counter-blast to Thames Television's Telethon, which was a practically uninterrupted variety show that puffed its way bravely to a finale in the early hours of the morning. The personalities who will be dropping in on the BBC's operations centre tonight, adding their voices to this phone-in appeal on behalf of all kinds of children's charities, will be doing nothing more than that. Last year's appeal brought in more than a million pounds. It's interesting to recall that when the appeal first went out on Radio 4 and BBC 1 some years back, it was given five minutes. Tonight's transmissions tot up to 175.

● SUEZ 1956 (BBC 2, 9.00), Ian Curteis's dramatization of the Eden-Nasser confrontation, is history made comprehensible to the masses, without insulting the intelligence of the already-informed. When originally transmitted, it was over-long at three hours; even the best history feasts need pauses to allow for digestion. It was a sensible, decision, then, to split the play down the middle — 90 minutes tonight, 90 tomorrow night.

● Radio highlights today: Beethoven's "Choral" Symphony, live from the Royal Festival Hall, played by the LSO under Sir Colin Davis. That's at 8.45, Radio 3. Earlier (8.00), there's the same orchestra, same conductor, in Tippett's Triple Concerto. Jimmy 'Schnozzle' Durante, a much-loved entertainer and possessor of the most famous nose since Cyrano de Bergerac, is the guest in THE BING CROSBY SHOW (Radio 2, 10.30 pm). Benny Green is the knowledgable scene-setter.

Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to: The Times, P.O. Box 7, 200, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ

Labour MP may be dropped after 'loyalty' question

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr George Cunningham, one of Labour's most respected middle-rank shadow ministers, last night forecast that he could be dropped as a party candidate for the next election.

The MP for Islington South goes before a general management committee selection meeting in his constituency next Wednesday, and at the end of last week it had been thought that he would survive the process.

But two members of the committee, journalists on the weekly *New Statesman* magazine, yesterday issued a public warning of the "disaster" now facing "this gifted and diligent MP".

Mr Bruce Page, the *New Statesman* editor, and Mr Francis Wheen, a staff journalist, revealed: "Our votes would be given to George Cunningham on the understanding that he would be ready to fight under Labour's banner in a forthcoming election."

They added, however: "His view appears to be that reselection cannot in principle place him under any such obligation." It is this question which could destroy Mr Cunningham's chances of reselection.

"George Cunningham, painfully honest to the end, insists that those who choose to support him must do so without that carrying with it any prediction of his own future course," the article stated.

The significance of this view is that it represents the middle ground of the constituency party. If they shift against Mr Cunningham, and joined forces with the left, then Mr Cunningham will lose the candidacy.

For the unspoken fear of Mr Page and Mrs Anne Page, the local party chairman, and they are not Bennites, is that Mr Cunningham could be reselected and then switch parties.

But in spite of this concern, Mr Cunningham said last night: "It seems quite likely now that I shall be deselected if those guarantees demanded are not forthcoming, which they won't be."

He explained: "I feel that in the present state of the Labour Party and politics in general, any MP has to maintain the freedom to respond to a swiftly changing situation, as he sees it, in the light of his responsibility to his constituents and the country in general.

"It would be entirely wrong to tie oneself to a particular course of action."

☐ Labour Party sources at Westminster last night suggested that Mr Stanley Cohen, MP for Leeds, South-East, would today announce his intention not to stand as a Labour candidate at the next General Election (Our Political Correspondent writes).

The MP, who is 54, was first elected to Parliament in 1970 and is known to have been facing difficulties with his local party.

Soviet hostile response

Continued from page 1

Nato affairs, said: "It's going to take time to accomplish anything with the Soviets."

The President made no reference to forward-based missiles in his speech, nor to the nuclear forces under British and French control. It is likely, therefore, that one of the initial stumbling blocks in the Geneva talks will be the question of which weapons systems should be covered by the negotiations.

Meanwhile, the House of Representatives, in a strong endorsement of President Reagan's military strategy, yesterday voted to continue development of the long-range B1 bomber the MX intercontinental ballistic missile.

In Moscow, Mr Sergei Losev, the director-general of Tass news agency, said the United States proposals were formulated only to appear to be of a peace-loving character.

In a clear indication that the Russians are ready to negotiate seriously at Geneva, Mr Losev said the Russians hoped the Reagan proposals were not his final say on the issue.

Writing in *Izvestia*, Mr Losev said that if the President's proposals had really been a programme for the preservation of peace in Europe, they would have drawn a positive response from the Soviet Union.

The speed and sharpness of the Soviet reaction has surprised Western diplomats in Moscow, but the Russians are clearly angered by what they see as an attempt to steal a propaganda march just when they were doing well in presenting their case to Western Europe

The Russians do not normally respond to offers put forward via the world's press, but presumably felt this time they had to reply lest the American offer gain wide acceptance in Europe and form the basis of negotiations in Geneva.

East Europe hostile, page 8
Leading article, page 13



Thousands joined the procession yesterday for the funeral in Lurgan of Mr Peader Fagan, who was murdered on Tuesday

Power workers back Paisley protest

From Christopher Thomas and Tim Jones, Belfast

The Rev Ian Paisley was saved from almost certain humiliation over his threatened campaign of civil disruption in Northern Ireland on Monday when workers at Ulster's biggest power station yesterday pledged their support.

The signs throughout the day were that "loyalist" paramilitary groups would refuse to mobilize behind his campaign and there were strong indications of disagreement among Unionist leaders on whether to back the protest.

But, apparently influenced by the IRA's murder yesterday of yet another member of the UDR, workers at Ballylumford power station on Island Magee, co Antrim, voted unanimously to stop work. They produce about half of Ulster's electricity but they are likely to maintain supplies for domestic users. Industry may be affected.

Mr Jack Hermon, Chief Constable of the RUC, survived a motion of no confidence proposed against him by members of the central committee of the Ulster Police Federation by 10 votes to nine at a meeting on Wednesday, it emerged last night.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, reported to the Cabinet on the mounting crisis yesterday and said afterwards: "The situation is serious. The law must be and will be upheld. There is no question of Northern Ireland becoming ungovernable. It is part of the United Kigdom and will be governed like other part of the United Kingdom and

Mr Gerard Fitt, Independent MP for Belfast, West, said last night that Northern Ireland now faced its most dangerous situation since the downfall of the power-sharing executive in 1974.

Speaking after a meeting with Mr Prior, he said: "If anything it is even more dangerous because there is now no identifiable target for the loyalists, which was previously the executive. Now there is no target, so it is open rebellion against the British Government."

He claimed there was real anger, fear and suspicion in the Protestant community.

"By far the biggest single thing in Northern Ireland which has enabled Mr Paisley to grossly exploit the situation is the murder and killing that has gone on incessantly along the border.

He said the murder of the Rev Robert Bradford had "enabled Paisley to make a bid for the domination of Northern Ireland. The Catholics bitterly resent the IRA pushing them into a position where they will be a frontline sacrifice".

There was intense police and Army activity in Belfast and other towns yesterday. The RUC warned that the IRA was intent on murdering more leading citizens as part of a plan to create total disorder.

A statement said: "The aims of the IRA are a threat to the entire community, Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. Their intentions are against the wellbeing of the entire community, and the RUC look to the community for cooperation and support in saving life and keeping the peace."

There were widespread appeals from moderate leaders in Northern Ireland yesterday for calm next Monday and some British MPs hoped that Mr Paisley's action would be far less destructive than he intends. The support of the power workers is crucial. They helped him bring down the executive but three years later they were responsible for his humiliating defeat in an attempt to bring Northern Ireland to a standstill.

On Wednesday, Mr Paisley had appealed for support at a mass meeting of power workers in Larne, co Antrim. There appeared to be considerable division among the men but they were united by the IRA's latest assassination. Mr John McKeegan, aged 40, a corporal with the UDR and a father of three, died in an elaborately prepared ambush in Strabane.

All Northern Ireland's Protestant para-military forces, including illegal organizations like the Red Hand Commandos, the Ulster Freedom Fighters and the Ulster Volunteer Force, were undecided early last night on their response to Mr Paisley's call for the province-wide stoppage from noon to midnight on Monday.

☐ Mr Prior told the Cabinet that he was confident that the Government would remain in control of the life of Ulster on Monday (Our Political Editor writes).

☐ Three victims of Ulster violence were buried yesterday. They were Mr Silas Lyttle, a part-time RUC reservist and Mr Albert Becom, a part-time UDR member, both killed by the IRA and Mr Peadar Fagan, a Roman Catholic murdered in a sectarian attack.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Peacemaker Reagan silences the left

MPs at all levels of seniority took the opportunity of yesterday's Prime Minister's Question Time to react to President Reagan's initiative on nuclear arms.

Mr Reagan's proposals were greeted by left-wing Labour backbenchers with an excited silence. None of them raised the matter with the Prime Minister. It was because this latest of Mr Reagan's unpredictable pronouncements was seen by the left as a major threat to world war.

They prefer Mr Reagan's unpredictable pronouncements to be a major threat to world peace. No doubt, the correct line will sort itself out in due course. Mr Brezhnev will reject the proposals. At the following Prime Minister's Question Time Mrs Thatcher will be told that the Reagan proposals were no good because they did not include some such vital ingredients as silos or submarines or surrender. Matters will return to normal. One predicts these developments with utter certainty.

Nonetheless, Mr Michael Foot, battling against the massive quiet emanating from the left-wing benches below the gangway, decided to welcome the American initiative.

"Since we have been arguing and campaigning for the zero option, as it is called, for many months—and indeed we adopted it right back at the time of discussions in December, 1979—we certainly hope that there can be negotiations on that basis and that negotiations may be successful", he told the Prime Minister.

Actually, Mr Foot did draw a few left-wing cheers towards the end of that ramble. For, as will have been noticed, he had depicted Mr Reagan as a closet unilateralist or at least as a man who in private practises the nuclear policy of the Leader of the British Opposition and was thus a sort of Foot fetishist. That made Reagan the Peacemaker just about bearable to a handful below the gangway, though that tolerant mood will not last.

The mood in that quarter was much happier once Mr Foot got around again to some of Mr Reagan's more reassuringly raving statements on nuclear matters. "This is much better and offers much better hope than statements about so-called limited nuclear war . . . the idea of limited nuclear war, such as was professed previously by the American administration and supported by some others, should be outlawed altogether." (Leftwin cheers.)

The Prime Minister replied that she hoped Mr Foot would welcome Mr Reagan's speech in an unqualified way. Some Labour backbenchers of the controversial Moderate Tendency cried: "He did. He did." Mr Foot was not one of them. He obviously felt it was too early to say whether he had.

Pressing on, Mrs Thatcher added: "I am delighted that Mr Foot is converted now to multilateral disarmament." This irritated, Mr Foot as it was intended to do. He rose immediately.

"We have got a deal better right to welcome it than the Right Hon. Lady has," he said. He added that "we" had been arguing for it in Washington, Europe and Moscow—the latter being a reference to the pre-disarmament march he was allowed to lead through Moscow consisting of himself and Mr Healey.

Mrs Thatcher replied that Mr Foot had been "arguing for surrender of our security." The Left wingers were aroused at this and started livening up. Somehow we had got on to the subject of an aggressive Mrs Thatcher which, confronted with a peaceable Mr Reagan, is better than nothing from their point of view.

Striking Shadow success

Continued from page 1

ling a difficult portfolio. He also happened to have the backing of the Manifesto Group.

Perhaps the most striking success was that of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, one of the five moderates elected at Brighton to the national executive committee. She squeaked in in bottom place, having raised her vote from 28 last year to 82.

☐ Leaders of Labour's Solidarity Campaign have decided to freeze publication of a document outlining a concerted counterattack against the party's undemocratic left (Our Political Correspondent writes).

Details of the document, revealed in *The Times* yesterday spell out a programme to "save the party" from its deepening crisis.

But the campaign's steering committee decided late on Wednesday night that it would be inappropriate to issue their objectives in the wake of Mr Foot's appeal for an end to party in-fighting.

Leading article, page 13

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Tomorrow's events

The Duke and Duchess of Kent plant a tree, Anmer, Norfolk, during National Tree Week, 12.

Talks, lectures

One day conference: Lawyers and Psychologists Gathering and Giving Evidence, King's College, Strand, 9.45. Trends in European Court Portraiture: 1550-1600, by Robin Gibson, Lecture Room, National Portrait Gallery, St Martins Place, 3.30. The Great Apes: film programme, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, 3. Volcanic eruptions, The Geological Museum, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, 2.30. Dutch Landscapes, National Gallery, 12. Twentieth Century Movements: Futurism, by Laurence Bradbury, Tate Gallery, 3. Anglo-Saxon pottery and glass, 11.30; Death and burial in Saxon and Viking times, 2.30, British Museum. Sources and techniques of the seventeenth-century craftsman, by Sarah Bowles, 12; The Devonshire Hunting Tapestries by Rosemary Lambert, 3, Victoria and Albert Museum.

Events for children

The 20th anniversary of the opening of The Little Angel Marionette Theatre. Puppet performance of *The Prince and the Mouse* from a story by Oliver Goldsmith, with a supporting programme of excerpts from previous productions, The Little Angel Marionette Theatre, 14 Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, 3. Suitable for children aged six years and over.

Music

An Evening of Viennese Music, Lutyens Room, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, Liverpool, 7.30. Mozart Requiem Solemn Vespers, London Mozart Players, leader, John Glickman, conductor, Hilary Davan Wetton, Guildford Cathedral, 7.30. Charity chamber concert in aid of World Wildlife Fund, Unitarian Church, Hoop Lane, Golders Green, 3. Ashford Choral Society, Elgar and Poulenc, conductor, Mark Deller, Ashford Parish Church, 7.30.

Exhibitions

Famous Books in Science, British Library, Great Russell Street, 10-5. Paul Tanqueray: innocent, romantic stage and society portraits from 1920s and 1930s, Lyric Theatre, King Street, 10-9. New Topographics: photographs by Robert Adams, Lewis Baltz and Joe Deal, a look at landscapes in the United States and how man has left his mark upon it. Open Eye Gallery, 90-92 Whitechapel, Liverpool, 10-5.30. Stephen Russell: Exhibition of Drawings and Portraits, Exhibition Area, 3rd floor, Central Library, Cambridge, 10-5. Frank Dobson 1886-1963: True and Pure Sculpture, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, 10-5.30. Lutyens: The work of English architect Sir Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944), Hayward Gallery, South Bank, 10-6.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,685

ACROSS

1 Commonly without money family gets in the way (5).
4 For motorists what's pump-room for — to cure disorder? (9).
9 Very musical, Heather is overwhelming (9).
10 The Colonel sounds so mad (5).
11 Fastness John mapped (5).
12 Circuitous royal progress? (9).
13 Aim wildly at mysterious grey figures (7).
15 Persuaded to join or back quiet oriental racket (5,2).
18 Cattle twitch, showing such energy (7).
20 Early device of cipher-breaking officer once? (7).
21 Dance figures nothing to me (9).
23 Start work with a punch-up? (3,2).
25 Dip articles after boiling initially (5).
26 Intelligence body, following tenuous Kremlin lead, tracked vehicle (5-4).
27 Would Eighth Army trooper run away twice? (6,3).
28 Saffron bloomers for such ladies (5).

DOWN

1 Comedy hits get credit (9).
2 What a number of children! (5).
3 With two betters it could win place money (5,4).
4 It's quite a distance to drive, of course (7).
5 Soldier as local visitor? (7).
6 Caught girl the Indian shot (5).
7 Wordsworth's Lucy got her living in these ways (9).
8 What's the date of touchdown, good man? (5).
14 Denies the East began conflict (9).
16 Wine's nothing to Kenneth Ward in the City (9).
17 Snare was effective as broadcast from various stations (9).
19 Farmer found frequently in royal company (7).
20 Range of borders for cloth (7).
21 Fix me up with night's lodging (5).
22 East End hire organization belonging to third persons (5).
24 Dog with sound record (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,684

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

Christmas post

Monday, November 23 is the latest recommended posting date for Christmas cards and parcels being sent by surface mail to BFPO 14 and to the following countries:

Albania, Austria, Azores, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canary Islands, Cape Verde, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic), Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Madeira, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USSR, Yugoslavia.

The latest recommended date for BFPO 8's surface Christmas mail is Saturday, November 28.

A special leaflet giving details of latest recommended posting dates for Christmas mail is now available from post offices.

Isle of Man

Sealink is offering a special fare to the Isle of Man on Sundays during the autumn designed for the motorist and his family to have a day out on the island.

Until December 19, a car and up to four adults will pay only £30 for the return journey, travelling out from Heysham on the Saturday night 23.45 sailing, and returning on the Sunday evening 1800 sailing.

Full details may be obtained from Sealink Isle of Man offices at Ladywell House, Preston, or Sealink appointed travel agents.

The papers

President Reagan's proposals on arms control attracted widespread comment.

The Washington Post, in a leading article, said Mr Reagan's speech was a serious effort to stabilize relations with the Soviet Union.

In Bonn, the Süddeutsch Zeitung said the President wished to make it clear to the European peace movement that it was the Kremlin, not the White House, which was obstructing nuclear disarmament in Europe.

Geneva's La Suisse said: "Mr Reagan's zero option is no miracle solution. It is really more an attempt to verify the goodwill and sincerity of the two parties."

Papers in Warsaw Pact countries spurned the offer. Czechoslovakia's Rude Pravo said the proposals did not signify a change in American policy and the prospects of détente were just as remote as ever.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on Labour's Shadow Cabinet elections, says the party's crisis will continue because the 66 votes cast for Mr Wedgwood Benn were votes cast against Mr Foot.

Weekend food buys

Beef prices this weekend are expected to show little change, but there may be small increases in pork and lamb. Increases in wholesale bacon prices are likely to be reflected in shops.

Looking ahead between now and Christmas, the British Farm Produce Council says, that home grown fruit and vegetables will be of a high standard.

Roads

Midlands: A5 (Warwickshire): partially closed just north of Atherstone, at junction of Holly Lane and Merevale Lane. Frequent delays. M6 lane closures north and southbound over three mile stretch in vicinity of Keele service area. A59, A59(T) and A65(T) extensive roadworks throughout Skipton, North Yorkshire.

Wales and the West: A483 major work at Llanbister, Powys. A388 new traffic lights being installed between Western Approach and King Street, Plymouth. M4 only one lane open eastbound between exits 15 and 16 (Swindon) and westbound from 16 to 17 (Chippenham).

Sporting fixtures

Racing: NH meetings at Ascot (1.0) and Ayr (1.15).

Football: FA Cup: First round: Bristol City v Torquay (8.0).

Real tennis: Open singles championship at Queen's Club, Kensington.

Squash rackets: British veterans championship, at Leicester.

Sport on TV

BBC 2: 1.20 Racing from Ascot; 3.55 International Pro-Celebrity Golf. ITV: 6.30 Thames Sport.

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The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.72	1.65
Austria Sch	31.60	29.58
Belgium Fr	82.25	78.25
Canada $	2.34	2.25
Denmark Kr	14.27	13.57
France Fr	11.24	10.64
Germany DM	4.44	4.20
Greece Dr	124.00	116.00
Hongkong $	11.27	10.67
Ireland Pt	1.25	1.20
Italy Lire	2375.00	2275.00
Japan Yen	447.00	421.00
Netherlands Gld	4.85	4.61
Norway Kr	11.56	10.96
Portugal Esc	127.00	120.00
South Africa Rd	1.83	1.67
Spain Pta	191.00	182.00
Switzerland Fr	3.59	3.37
USA $	1.98	1.91

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index rose 8.2 to 511.7.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average rose 0.67 to 844.75.

Top box office films

The top ten films in London (previous week in parentheses):

1 (1) The French Lieutenant's Woman
2 (–) An American Werewolf in London
3 (–) Wolfen
4 (–) Montenegro
5 (4) Blow Out
6 (8) For Your Eyes Only
7 (7) Raiders of the Lost Ark
8 (2) Southern Comfort
9 (5) Endless Love
10 (3) History of the World—Part 1

The top five in the provinces are:

1 Monty Python's Life of Brian/Airplane!
2 The French Lieutenant's Woman
3 The Other Cinderella/Kentucky Fried Movie
4 The Final Conflict
5 Enter Ninja

Compiled by Screen International.

Auctions today

Christie's, King Street: important English pictures, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: printed books, 10.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: carpets, 10; English furniture, 11. Sotheby's, Belgravia: automobilia, shipmodels, scientific instruments, cameras, optical toys and related material, 10.30 and 2.30.

Viewing

Christie's, King Street: Continental pottery and Italian maiolica; fine English and Continental miniatures: fine enamels and gold boxes.

Today's anniversaries

Wilfred Laurier, French-Canadian prime minister of Canada 1896-1911, was born at Saint-Lin, Québec, 1841.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on report of Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

Weather

General situation: A deep depression will move E near N Scotland with troughs moving SE across Britain

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight

London, SE England, Channels Islands: Occasional rain, some bright intervals; wind SW, strong, locally gale; max temp 13C (55F).

East Anglia, Central S, SW England, Midlands (E): Occasional rain, hill fog, clearer and mostly dry in evening; wind SW, strong to gale, veering W later; temp 14C (57F).

E NW Central N, NE England, Midlands (W), S, N Wales: Rain giving way to clearer conditions in afternoon, hill fog at first; wind SW strong to gale veering W; max temp 11C (52F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Bright, with showers after more general rain in morning; wind SW, gale veering W; max temp 9C (48F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen: Rain at first, then mostly dry and bright; wind SW, strong, locally gale, soon veering W; max temp 9C (48F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney: Showers or longer outbreaks of rain, snow on hills; wind S, strong to gale soon veering W; max temp 7C (45F).

Shetland: Rain or sleet, snow on hills; wind SW, gale, becoming variable then N gale, max temp 5C (41F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mostly dry and mild in England and Wales; changeable in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, strong, perhaps gale, veering W; sea rough or very rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW, veering W, strong, occasionally gale; sea rough or very rough.

Sun rises: 7.27 am | Sun sets: 4.5 pm
Moon rises: 12.23 am | Moon sets: 2.15 pm
New moon: November 26.

Lighting up time

London 4.35 pm to 6.59 am
Bristol 4.45 pm to 7.8 am
Edinburgh 4.27 pm to 7.31 am
Manchester 4.35 pm to 7.15 am
Penzance 5.2 pm to 7.15 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	5	41	Guernsey	r	11	52
Birmingham	f	8	46	Jersey	d	13	55
Blackpool	f	9	48	London	s	11	52
Bristol	s	9	48	Manchester	f	8	46
Cardiff	f	11	52	Newcastle	f	7	45

London

Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 6C (43F). Humidity: 6 pm, 67 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.13in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 3.9hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,019.5 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 1518: 18.18-18.21; W; 15SW; SSW. Cosmos 236R: (Nov 21) 6.1-6.6; WNW*; 50NNW; E. Cosmos 185R: 17.27-17.31; NW; 65NE; ESE. 19.2-19.10; WNW; 35WSW; S*. Dynamics Explorer: (Nov. 21) 6.4-6.13; SSE; 45E; NNE. Seasat: 18.23-18.29; ESE; 60NNE; NNW. 20.3-20.7; WSW; 30WSW; NW. Salyut: 18.16-18.18; WSW; 50SSW; SSW*.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, University of Aston, Birmingham.

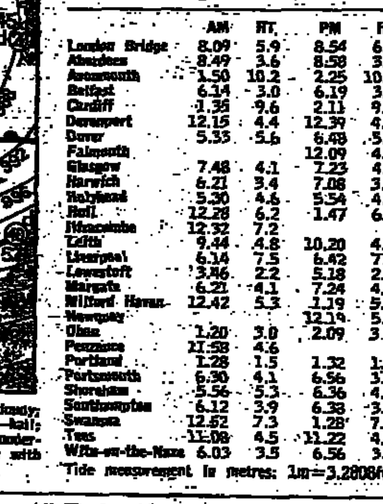
Highest and lowest

Highest day max: Guernsey, 14C (57F). Lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Wick, 2C (28F). Highest rainfall: Guernsey Airport, Anvil Green, .39in. Highest sunshine: Hastings, 6.5hr.





High tides



[illegible]

Around Britain

[illegible]

Abroad

[illegible]